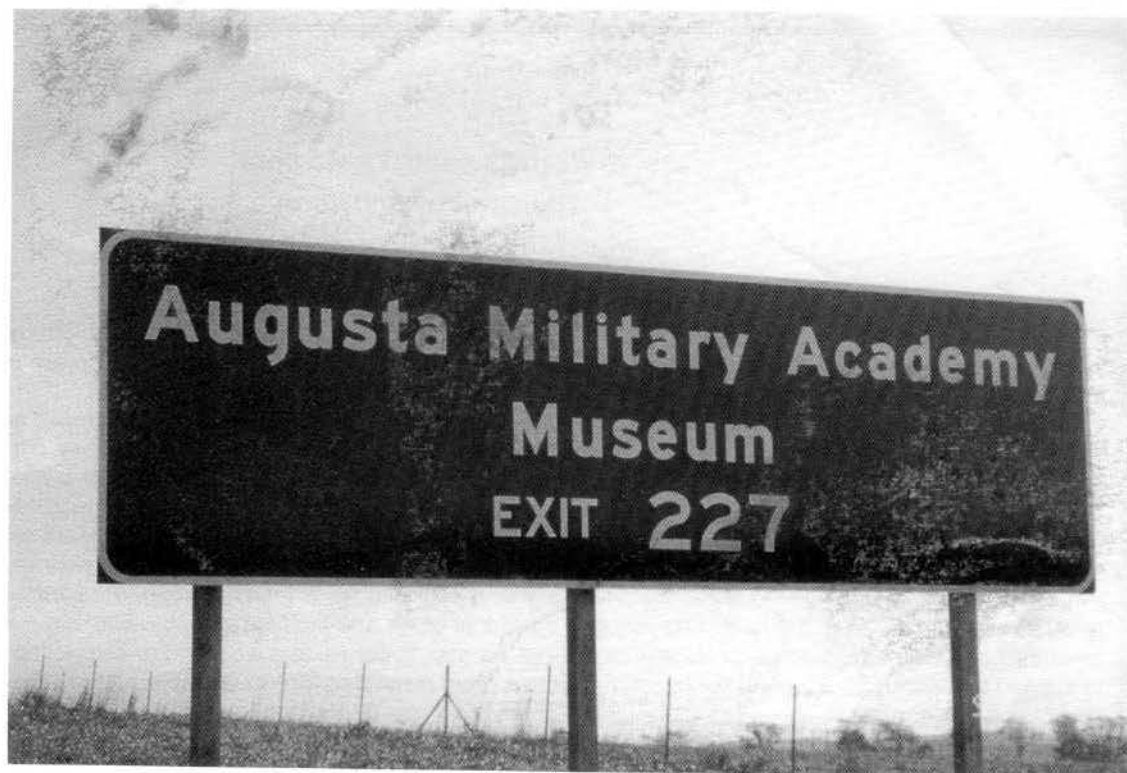




New AMA signs up on I-81, Route 11

Thanks to the generous contribution by an AMA cadet's mother, there are now official Department of Transportation signs on Interstate 81 and U.S. Route 11 (the Valley Pike) pointing the way to the AMA Alumni House/Museum. **Mrs. Joann West**, mother of **Norvell West, 83**, contributed in excess of \$10,000 to have the signs made and installed. The details will be found on page 9.

The Roller Rifles, marching again?

If **Tom DelValle, '73**, has his way, The Roller Rifles will exhibit their unparalleled drill skills at on the AMA Parade Grounds at Reunion 2005.

Tom hopes to recruit fellow alumni who once more will form our famous drill team, and march either in exhibition or competition during the reunion.

Tom needs to hear from you soon if you are interested! All the details are on page 37.

Korean, Vietnam War vets to be honored in museum display

For the past four years, the AMA Museum has had a tribute to the veterans of World War II as its principal display. Beginning in the Fall of 2005, that exhibition will be replaced by a display saluting AMA veterans who served in the Korean and/or Vietnam Wars.

Master Sergeant Don Studer says that "we will need the same kind of assistance we got from our World War II vets in order to set up an exhibition that pays proper tribute to our alumni who served in Korea and Vietnam."

Master Sergeant Joe Josephson says the museum is looking for uniforms, weapons, letters to and from home, medals and stories – particularly stories.

See more details on page 17.

Three \$2,000 AMA Scholarships

See pages 14-15

HIGH HOPES AND BROKEN HEARTS

The valiant and villainous attempts to reopen AMA

Begins on page 29

Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

Fall 2004



I'm hopeful this issue of *The Bayonet* finds each of you happy and healthy. As our country emerges from the tragedies of terrorism and the pain of war, it's reassuring to reflect how fortunate we are to live in a country where freedom still reigns and the American Dream thrives.

As young men, we grew up faster than others our age. We made life long friends and developed family ties with other cadets that will stay with us forever. Yet, many of those we long to see again are only a memory. They don't frequent the Museum or attend reunions or send updates to *The Bayonet*. Finding them and seeing them again is our mission.

Recently, we were blessed with a generous donation which paid for Interstate and U.S. highway directional signs pointing travelers to the Augusta Military Academy Museum. These signs are installed and acting as "silent criers." We expect that these signs will help bring lost alumni back to visit the campus and help to locate their AMA brothers who have stayed away for so long.

In order to keep these highway signs in place, it is mandatory that we extend the hours of operation of our museum to nearly twice as many hours as in the past. This requires additional funds and time for staff, utilities, and maintenance. We need your contribution of time and/or financial donations. Please act now to set aside a weekend to help at the house, or send in a check to support this worthy cause. Your contribution of time is more rewarding than imaginable: just ask the many who have previously given us a day or two!

Reunion 2005 is shaping up very nicely. The theme is "Until There Are Two" and will remind everyone that one day only two AMA alumni will remain. They will toast the memory of all who went before them. This helps stress our desire to locate as many lost alumni as possible to bring them back into the AMA family. The Friday reunion trip will be to Appomattox to see where the Civil War ended and will be hosted by last year's guest speaker, Dr. Mary DeCredico, Assistant Dean and Head of the History Department at the US Naval Academy. The dates are April 28-29-30. It's not too early to reserve rooms. Look for further details on the back page. If you haven't experienced an AMA reunion, you'll not want to miss next year's activities.

The reunion next year will conclude our five-year tribute to our World War II vets and we will orate the final roll call of the 53 AMA cadets who lost their lives in that war. Next fall, the AMA Alumni Museum will open an exhibit in tribute to AMA cadets and faculty who were involved in the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Please join me in prayers that include: the wellness of all AMA alumni and their families; the safe return of our soldiers fighting the War on Terrorism; peace for the residents of the Southeast who were pelted by Hurricanes; and wisdom to our lawmakers to make sound decisions.

See you in April 2005...just 6 months away!

Garry Granger, '71

President, AMA Alumni Association, Inc.



Volume 2004, Number 4

Newsletter of the AMA Alumni Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101

Editor: Bob Bradford, '50
Circulation Manager: Ed Click, '50

The Bayonet is distributed to alumni and friends of the Augusta Military Academy.

Notice of changes of address should be sent to ADDRESS CHANGE, P. O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101.

Please provide your 9-digit ZIP code!

The Bayonet welcomes information and articles for or about AMA alumni. Share the news of promotions, awards, retirements, births, marriages, deaths, etc. Please print or type your submission.

Clear, correctly exposed photos are always welcome. Digital photos? See page 28.

Mail, e-mail or FAX information to:
Bob Bradford
529 Justin Morgan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507
Phone 925/855-7338
FAX 925/855-7342
e-mail: AMABayonet@aol.com

To reach our webpage:
www.AMAAlumni.org

**You can save
\$5.47
for AMA!**

Every time we mail a *Bayonet* to an incorrect address, the US Post Office charges us to forward the newsletter on to your new address and then give that new address to us.

You can save us \$5.47 simply by telling us your new address when you move. Send to: ADDRESS CHANGE, P.O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101. Thanks very much!

1935

(JULIAN QUARLES)

Colonel Will Parkins and his son, Bill, '70, have moved to an apartment at Bridgewater Home in Bridgewater. They were in the midst of their move during Reunion 2004 and we missed seeing them both.

Julian Quarles went to the reenactment of the Battle of Port Republic in June. Julian's uncle was in Company E of the 5th Virginia Infantry in the 1862 battle, and was presented with a Union officer's sword by Stonewall Jackson after the Battle of Cedar Creek. Julian is an honorary member of the Augusta Greys, the nickname for the Confederate unit. In August, he attended the 79th reunion of the 36th Division, his World War II unit.

[JMQJR@aol.com]

George Adam, who was Julian's AMA roommate for four years, plans a trip to Australia in February and a trip to Fort Defiance next April for the 70th anniversary of his graduation from Augusta. George recently moved to Webster, TX.

1936

(TOM ROLLER)

Tom Roller and Dina have moved from Southern California to Mesa, AZ to be closer to Dina's children who live in the Phoenix area.

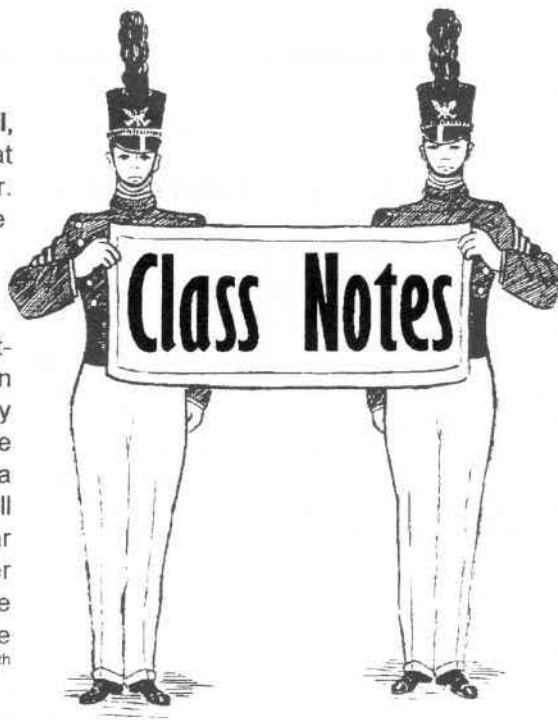
[taroller@earthlink.net]

1938

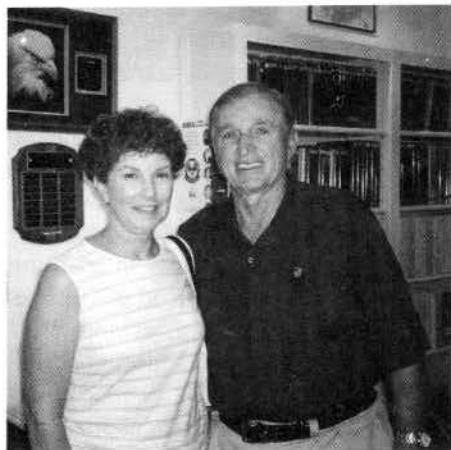
(LARRY KURTZ)

Doug Dillard has been located after having been on our list of the missing for many years. He lives in Winston-Salem and though he retired several years ago as Chairman of the Board of Washington Group, he goes to his office every day selling and leasing real estate.

Captain Larry Kurtz, USN, Retired, and Jill weathered the storm when Hurricane Charley ripped into their hometown of Punta Gorda, Florida. "In all my time at sea, I never saw the barometer go as low as it did when the storm passed over us," he said. They lost solar panels from their pool



Above, Betty Joyce and Willard Finney, '45, and, below, Denna and Bill Koellmer, '46, on their visits to the museum.



and a number of roof tiles, "but we have a strong house and it took the storm well." We were much relieved to hear that you folks are OK.

1943

(CHRIS HARRISON & EARL CABANISS)

Jack Jansing has gotten a clean bill of health from his doctor after a bout with prostate cancer. "I had a ton of chemo and radiation," he says, "but I know that I owe everything to the wonderful prayers of support from so many good friends." The Jansings live in Hobe Sound, FL.

1944

(BILL McOWEN)

Earl Weed, First Captain his senior year, hopes to get back for Reunion 2005. Originally in the Class of '45, he doubled up on his work so he could graduate in 1944, immediately going into the service. The Weeds live in Dallas.

1946

(NONE)

Frederick Sprigg Hayes, Jr. was killed in action in the Korean War. Researchers just turned up this information recently.

1947

(MIKE WELCH)

Geoff Layng (see Larry Edwards, '62)

1949

(FRANK SPENCER)

Richard McLaughlin "shot the rapids" in June when he rafted down the New River Gorge for 20 miles to Parachute Bridge.

Ed Chauncey is doing well after having had eye surgery in April. We owe a debt to him and Bobby for all the work they are doing to process the mountain of files created while the school was open.

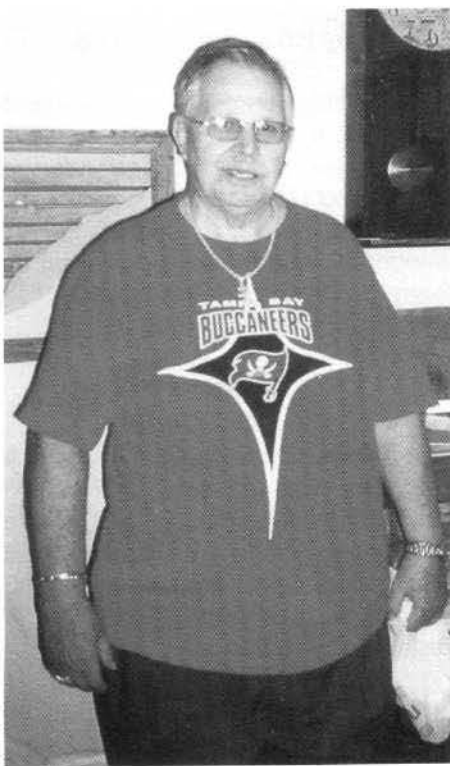
[sumhill@starpower.net]

1950

(JIM LUPTON)

Jack McKenna is retired and lives in Salisbury, MD. He is back on our mailing list thanks to Jim Sylvanus,

'49. Jim says that he, Jack and **Don Carmichael**, '48, were in an old neighborhood group and they get together a couple of times each year.



Bob Ayres, '50, at the museum.

Jim Starnes was back in the hospital in July to have stent number 14 installed in his coronary artery. Hope you continue to do well, Jim.

[jimstarnes3@comcast.net]

Ed Click and Sue are spending the month of October in Australia.

[gramps02@juno.com]

John Cole is still living in Houston though he and Betsy still have plans to build a house on two acres of land west of Richmond "just off the road that Thomas Jefferson used to go to Richmond from Monticello." Their only daughter, Cecil, was married in May. She lives near Dodger Stadium in LA where she is a photographer and videographer.

[paisanoviejo@pdq.net]

1951

(**HAP STARR & FRANK PILLEY**)

Bud Hargrave and Bett had a "walking

adventure" among the five villages of Cinque Terre, near Portofino and Genoa, in June. The Hargraves live in Lexington, NC.

[betthar@triad.rr.com]

Colonel Frank Pilley went to Norway and Finland in August. He has a full teaching schedule at George Mason University in Northern Virginia.

[JudyPilley@aol.com]

Hap Starr sadly reported to us that his good friend, **Sid Taylor**, had passed away at home after a short illness. Hap has written a tribute to Sid. (See page 66.)

Bill Parnell has been found after a long absence from the AMA sphere. It was **Hap Starr**, with the help of **Jerry Wildman**, '57, who finally tracked Bill down in Ocean Springs, Mississippi where he and Barbara, his date at the 1951 Final Ball and his wife for 53 years, live. Bill still captains shrimp boats, but no longer owns his own fleet. The family three boat shrimp fleet was once based at Punta Gorda, but relocated to Mississippi in 1989 "where the fishing is better". Bill hopes to come back for Reunion 2005. Great news, Bill!

Rod Willey, a member of the AMA Alumni Association Board of Directors and a Trustee of the AMA Alumni Foundation, has let us know about his new e-mail address. Rod and Sue live in Fort Defiance.

[rswilley8@earthlink.net]

1952

(**JIM "SHAD" WHITE**)

Duncan Wong checks in from Hawaii with a new e-mail address.

[dwpng@cableonda.net]

Roger Messick and Jean are taking their children on a Christmas cruise to the Mexican Riviera, leaving LA on 22 December returning 29 December. Roger, who had two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot, retired in 1995 as Chief Pilot for General Electric.

[TR MESSUP@aol.com]

Sy Nunn played football at AMAand

was the trainer for the basketball team. He lives in Arlington.

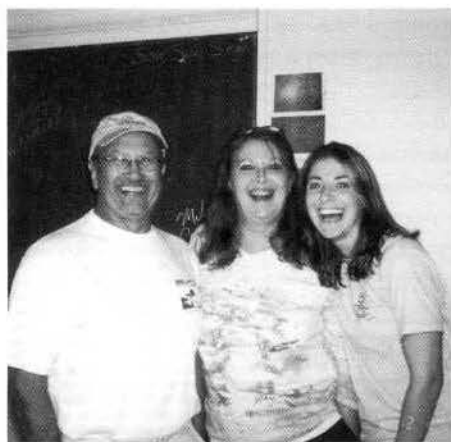
1953

(**LEW MUNDIN**)

Ted Basque retired four years ago from OEA Aerospace, now Goodrich. He lives in Del Webb Sun City in Lincoln, CA and keeps in touch with **Manuel Balbis** and **Lew Mundin**, and recalls how **Jim** and **Ronnie Mahanes'** mother was a second mother to him when he was an AMA cadet.

Al Wattay had successful hip replacement surgery in July and is doing well at home in Hilton Head Island. Good luck, Al!

[Dialwat@aol.com]



FIFTY YEARS LATER - Pete Stone, '54, with his wife, Melanie, and daughter, Lauren, pose in Colonel Hoover's classroom.

1954

(**KEN HOKE**)

Guy Townsend wrote that he enjoyed the last *Bayonet* so much that he has made a contribution to the AMA Alumni Foundation. Thanks, Guy!

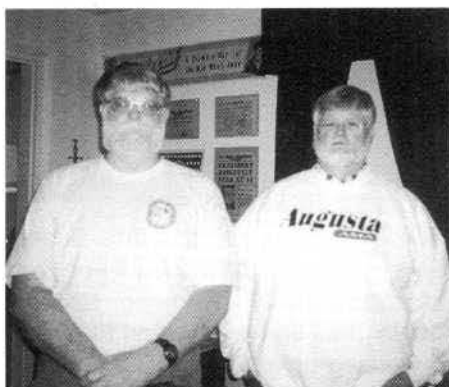
[Wguyemilie@aol.com]

1955

(**T. C. LEA, JR.**)

T. C. Lea took his offspring to an outstanding Alaskan fishing adventure in August. His daughter, two sons, a step-son, and a grandson joined T. C. as they were dropped into the wilderness by a float plane. A grand time had by all!

[tclea@ns.gemlink.com]



THE BEAVER BOYS - Richard, left, from the Class of '64, and George, a new cadet in 1964.

1960

(LUKE SNYDER & FRANK WILLIAMSON)

Bill Baker is in Thailand and will be returning to Irving, TX in November. His Irving address will be: 7750 N. MacArthur, Suite 120, PMB 127, Irving, TX 75063. At the moment, Bill doesn't have an e-mail address.

Donald Russell has been in the home building business since 1969. He and Frankie live in Virginia Beach. They have three children: Kasey, 21; Jeremy, 28; and Christa, 31.

[FBlackRussell@aol.com]

1961

(JACK STEELE)

Lee Jackson checks in from Encinita in Southern California. He says that "a man who looks a lot like my Dad is staring back at me in the mirror these days."

[AnnesleyJ@msn.com]

Thomas Edward Carnegie has been confirmed as having been killed in action in the Vietnam War.

1962

(BOB GEBEAUX & BOB RIDGEWAY)

"Rod" Rodriguez has moved to a new location in his village in Northeastern Sweden. He had an interesting job this past summer job: caretaker at a cemetery "where people would stop by to wish me a good day."

[warlock1@telia.com]

Tom Douglas is Assistant Director of Security for Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. [kinsale333@aol.com]

Kevin Kissling is now semi-retired after a long career with Johnson & Johnson. He and his wife live in Columbus in central New Jersey. Their son, Kevin, lives and works in San Francisco.

[kwkiss1@msn.com]

Larry Edwards lives in Capistrano Beach, California where he and **Geoff Layng**, '47, go to the same church. In casual conversation, each learned that the other had attended AMA, and Geoff got Larry back in touch with the alumni association.

[east8th@yahoo.com]

1964

(KEN EICHNER)

Harry Darr found the AMA Website and is back in touch. Welcome home, Harry!

[hidiii@aol.com]

1965

(NONE)

John Ensign ran into **Greg Duran**, '73, and Greg got John back on the AMA mailing list. John lives in Wilmington, NC. **Chris Meek**, '84, who also lives in Wilmington, gave John a warm "welcome home!"

[jensign@ec.rr.com]

1967

(Mac McINISS)

Phil O'Connor is a Clinical Coordinator for Advanced Healthcare in Fort Wayne, IN.

[rcppo@aol.com]

1969

(BILL SCARBOROUGH, NICKY SYROPOULOS & C.A. PASCALE)

Bruce Freeman writes from

Pompano Beach that he recently checked out the AMA website and that he really likes it. Thanks, Bruce! **B. J. d'Orsay**, '70, puts a lot of time into making our website - AMAAlumni.org - one of the best around.

[licsw@hotmail.com]

1970

(HARRY CAMPBELL)

Jorge Roviro spent much of June



IN MAGGIE BELLE'S PARLOR - Lloyd Hoilman, '64, and his daughter, Kimberly, enjoy the ambiance of the Alumni House's biggest room.



ON PARADE - With the AMA Parade Field in the background, **Warren Snyder**, '65, his wife and his parents visit the AMA campus.



TALKING WITH THE SERGEANT - Jim Piersall '71, visits with Master Sergeant Josephson.

and July dealing with a work stoppage by truck drivers at the Port of Miami. In early July, he reported, *"It will take weeks to get back to normal."* The strike was settled in mid-July. Jorge has been with Farovi Shipping Corporation since 1983.

[Jorovi@Farovi.com]

Tom McLean attended the 10th and 11th grades at AMA and was assigned to C Company. He has gotten back in touch after he found us on the AMA web site. [tkmcclean1@comcast.net]

**1972
(LEWIE KENNETT)**

Warren Fleming lives in Damascus, MD and recently had a mini-reunion with **Doug Kopp** and **Bill Evans**.

[wkfleming@aol.com]

**1973
(JIM ATKINSON & JOE GARRY)**

Dr. Eduardo Prado has had a private dental practice in North Palm Beach, FL as well as one in Guatemala since 1989. He did graduate studies at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, and stayed on the faculty there until 1987. He and Julia have four children: Fernando, 20; Sofia, 18; Manuel, 10; and Tatiana, 8.

[epradoayau@bellsouth.net]

Greg Duran is a project manager with an electric utility and their busiest time always seems to conflict with the AMA Reunions. Hope you get back soon, Greg. He lives in Raleigh, NC.

**1974
(BILL BRUDER, HAYES DICKINSON & COREY KOENIG)**

Dr. Corey Koenig has an OB/GYN practice in Southbridge, Massachusetts where he delivers copious quantities of babies and provides quality health care to women.

[SKoenigMD@aol.com]

**1975
(BRETT THOMPSON)**

Brett Thompson has been working hard to get fellows from his class back for Reunion 2005, their 30th anniversary. He has told his classmates that the Classes of 1970 and 1971 always seem to have a good turnout, but not so with the Class of '75. (See story on page 64-65.)

[bdt46@bellsouth.net]

**1976
(JIM MITCHELL)**

Mike Payne and **Rhonda** celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary this year. Congratulations! Older daughter **Mary** is married and has three children while **Holly** is a sophomore at Ohio State where she is majoring in criminology. Mike is the Senior Emergency Services Consultant and Staff Training Coordinator for TSB Loss Control, an FM Global Company, in Rome, GA. Mike and Rhonda breeds English Springer Spaniel gun-dogs.

[mpayneesq@aol.com]

Pablo Morales S r pico checked in after he had found AMA friends **Brett Thompson**, '75, **Tom McCabe**, '74,

and his cousin **Bill Morales**, '73, on the AMA web page. He lives in Caracas and hopes to get back for Reunion 2005. [murova@cantv.net]

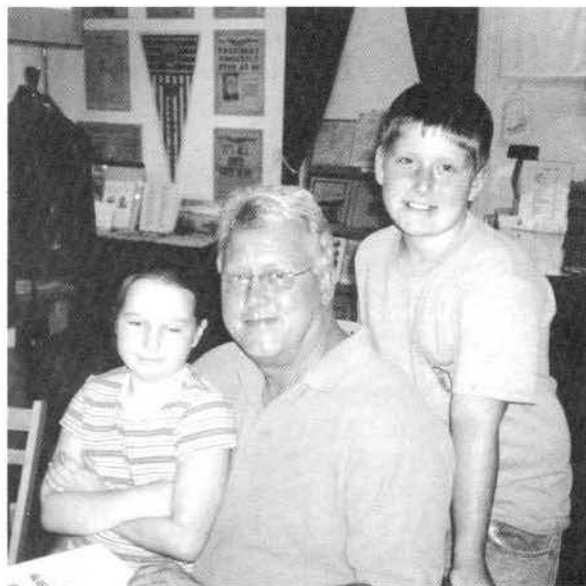
**1979
(PAUL KARCH)**

Ed Iskow owns and operates Support Enterprises, an airline equipment repair company in Richmond. His wife, **Cyndy**, has earned her first Ph.D. and is working on a Masters in orientation and mobility for the visually impaired. They have two children: **Rachel**, 10, and **Joseph**, 7.

[ed_iskow@mindspring.com]

Juan Ricardo Brich found us through the website. Glad to have you back in touch, Juan. He'd like to hear from guys who were at AMA when he was.

[negami1960@yahoo.com.ar]



THE TRIO - Sam Harris, '74, with his daughter Rowan and his nephew Bradley on their visit to the AMA Museum.

**1980
(KEITH TRAYLOR)**

Keith Traylor, the brother of **Ken**, '78, and **Steve**, '72, has signed on to be Class Agent for 1980. That class will celebrate its 25th anniversary at Reunion 2005 on the last three days of April next year. Keith, a single parent, lives in Gaithersburg, Maryland with his three children: daughters age 15 and 17, and a son, 19. Keith is a

much-in-demand piano tuner who travels as far away as Lexington, VA to perform his musical miracles.

1982
(NONE)

Tony Beneventi and his brother, **Patrick**, '83, have parents who have not forgotten what AMA did for their sons. Mr. and Mrs. Beneventi just sent a contribution to the AMA Alumni Association. Thank you very much! Both of their sons live in California, Tony in Foothill Ranch and Patrick in Montecito.

[Tony-tobeneventi@minutemaid.com]
[Patrick-patrick_beneventi@s5a.com]

1984
(CHRIS MEEK)

David Murphy found the AMA website, but too late to learn that Reunion 2004 had as its central theme honoring guys from the Class of '84, our school's last class. David, who lives in Cave Creek, Arizona plans to visit the school this Fall. *"What better time to relive AMA days than in the cold weather,"* he says. He remembers warmly **Derek Fayne** who, David says, taught him a lot.

[socerdad867@aol.com]

Linda and Mal, Jr. undergo surgery

Linda Roller Livick, the wife of **Colonel Malcolm Livick** and the granddaughter of **General Charles S. Roller, Jr.**, had surgery in July. Her hospital stay was short and she has recovered completely at home.

Mal Livick, Jr., '75, had surgery in June at the University of Virginia Hospital to correct a defective aortic valve. He too is recovering well.

Are you from the Class of 1965?

Your class will be honored at the 2005 reunion, and yours is one of only two classes without a class agent. WON'T YOU VOLUNTEER?

It's been a quarter of a century since the Class of 1980 finished at AMA

By Keith Traylor, Class Agent for 1980

Twenty-five years ago in 1980, *Sailing* was the song of the year, a new car cost about \$7,500 and you could buy a loaf of bread for 50 cents. Remember when Ronald Reagan defeated Jimmy Carter?

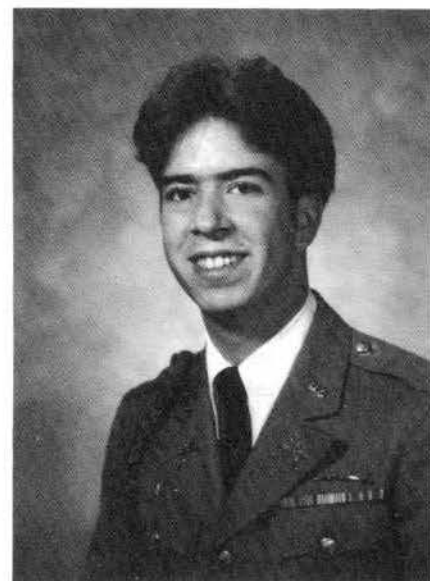
Well, next year will be the 25th anniversary for AMA's Class of 1980. That is hard to believe and makes me feel older than I am! A lot of water had gone over the dam since then. Some of us went off to college; some went into the service; some went to work; some married and had families; and some of us ended up as single parents. We haven't all had a lot of time to think back on our days in Fort Defiance and now is the time to do just that.

Not everyone who was at AMA in the late 1970's and the 1980's has the same happy recollections of that time. **Doc Savedge** and **Colonel Hoover** kept AMA pride and discipline in place along with their military counterparts, **Sergeant Josephson** and **Sergeant Studer**. Let's face it: discord was part of life. The school had changed from what we had come to expect and many of us felt that AMA had strayed from its foundation.

In my mind, 2005 would be a good time for all of us from the Class of 1980 -- all of us that we can find -- to come back to Fort Defiance for our 25th reunion. We can talk over old times, compare our experiences at AMA and since, forgive some hurts, rekindle friendships, and see if we can help some of our classmates come to grips at long last with the things that happened to us a quarter of a century ago.

I volunteered to be the class agent for 1980 because I was embarrassed to read in *The Bayonet* that no one else had signed up for the job. So now it is my intention to reach everyone I can find from the Class of 1980, and to urge each of them to

come back to the 2005 reunion on the last three days of April - April 28, 29 and 30.



Keith Traylor at AMA in 1980

If you are from the Class of '80, or from an adjacent class, please let me know if you know where any of your "lost" classmates might be. I look forward to hearing from everyone in our class. I don't have e-mail, but you can call me at 301/258-7380. Or you can write to me at: 5 Blue Ribbon Court, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

What did AMA mean to you? How did AMA change your life? Who was your best friend at AMA and wouldn't you like to see him again?

When was the last time you were on our campus? Do you remember the flute? It's time: time to get together again; time to see how 25 years later we might be able to help a classmate, time to remember all the good and bad days we spent at Augusta.

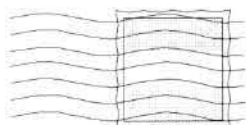
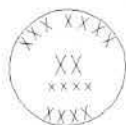
I really look forward to seeing old AMA faces again!

Keith Traylor

Harry Cheung, '75, has checked in from Hong Kong. He is working in China building five star hotels as project manager for a construction company. He received a Masters degree in geotechnical engineering at Iowa State University in 1982 and has been in Hong Kong since.

[Harry Cheung <hamshk@netvigator.com>]

Letters to the Editor



The World War II Memorial dedication

I attended the dedication of the World War II Memorial in Washington, DC and we got excellent seats since I had been wounded during the war.

When the President finished speaking, I worked my way over to where he was and, clasping his hand, said, "Tell Rummy to go after those bad guys in Iraq," and he laughed and said, "Tell him yourself. He's right there." I couldn't get to Secretary Rumsfeld, but it was a thrilling occasion nonetheless. The Memorial is perfect!

George Adam, '35
League City, Texas

...and the next day

Mainly because of the crowds, I did not go to the dedication of the World War II Memorial, but went the next day. There were still thousands of people there!

Six of us were sitting on a bench wearing caps indicating that we were World War II vets when a pretty young lady came by and kissed all six of us. There are some advantages to being old!

Julian Quarles, '35
Harrisonburg, Virginia

(Editor's note: George and Julian were roommates at AMA. George went to the Pacific where he was seriously wounded. Julian went to Italy where he became a POW and had a dramatic escape from a Nazi prison train)

Meanwhile, at Normandy

Shirley and I were privileged to be at the American Military Cemetery at Normandy on 6 June 2004, the 60th anniversary of D-Day. (see story on page 27) I did not cross the Normandy beach until seven months after D-Day and was at the Remagen Bridge when the war ended. We were so thrilled to be at Normandy with so many fellow veterans from World War II in the presence of the President.

Dr. Don Elston, '44
Flagstaff, AZ

A welcome sight!

A welcome sight was in our mailbox today, that being the Summer issue of *The Bayonet*. I wish to thank everyone for their hard work in bringing this to all of us who appreciate it so very much, especially those a long way from The Valley. From here in the North Country, thank you very much!

Alan Poole, '67
Minot, North Dakota

Ben Carlisle a great cavalryman

I have just received the latest *Bayonet* with the article about **Ben Carlisle, '33**, and his saddle and breast plate.

Since you have the breast plate at the AMA Museum, I'd like to lend the saddle to you for display with the breast plate. Ben must have been a great cavalryman to have had his name engraved on both items!

Gary Marker,
by e-mail: gwm326@aol.com

Reports death of Pedro Moros, '58

I am writing to let you know that my father, **Pedro C. Moros**, passed away on 30 May 2004 in Venezuela. He kept dreaming about seeing AMA again, but he just couldn't ever make it back to Fort Defiance. He was so honored to have studied at Augusta. I would really like to hear from anyone who knew him when he was a cadet. I live in Carmel, Indiana and have many AMA photos that he treasured.

Sandra B. Moros
by e-mail: sandysafia@hotmail.com

The genesis of Uncle Dolly

I read in the Summer *Bayonet* the remarks made by **Joe McCue, '66**, at the Founder's Day ceremonies during the reunion in which he said he always called **Colonel Charles Roller "Uncle Dolly."** I believe that I am the one who created that name for him since I could not pronounce "Charley" when I was a small child. Uncle Dolly was as close to Uncle Charley as I could get!

Hilton Roller Grasty,
daughter of Colonel Tom Roller
Charlottesville, Virginia

A thank you

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, phone calls, flowers and e-mails when I had my surgery. I appreciate your being concerned about me during this time. May God bless you all as he has blessed me so many times.

Joyce (Mrs. Ben) Zinkhan
AMA Museum volunteer, Staunton, VA

From Stuart Hall

It was a joy to discover your website! There are a number of women out there who left the better part of their youth at the parade grounds. Who can forget what those capes looking like coming through the snow to Stuart Hall's Old Main for a Monday date? Remember **Doc Savedge's** great dances? We actually had big bands and danced the night away. Some of us could barely hold up our ruffled strapless evening gowns during the figure, but we had our long white gloves. Have you ever cut a cake with a sword?

Band Company forever! From an aging retired French teacher, Episcopal Deacon and former AMA Princess.

Burnell Pike Esbenshade
by e-mail: desbensshade@aol.com

Your letters are welcome. E-mail to: AMABayonet@aol.com
Mail to: 529 Justin Morgan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507

Long sought interstate signs are now in place, thanks to Mrs. Joann West

Travellers along Interstate 81 and Route 11 now have directional signs pointing them to the AMA Alumni House/Museum, the culmination of a four year effort to see the museum staffed so that such markers could be erected. The boundless generosity of **Mrs. Norvell (Joann) West**, mother of **Norvell West, III, '83**, has made the dream come true, a realization of efforts to tell passers-by that the spirit of Augusta Military Academy is alive and well in Fort Defiance.

Mrs. West contributed \$10,500 to have the signs manufactured to the standards of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). The state agency installed the directional markers and will maintain them. In addition to large signs in both the southbound and northbound lanes on I-81 at Exit 227, there are smaller signs where the interstate exit road intersects Route 11 at Verona and north of Mount Sidney as well as signs at AMA's Front Gate as approached from either direction on Route 11 – the Valley Pike.

Steve Trent, '70, was Chairman of the Signs Committee assisted by **Gordon Metz, '68**. It was Trent who sought from VDOT the specific requirements for the signs to go up. First and foremost was the requirement that the AMA Museum be open for at least six hours a day six days a week. Even though there is a considerable strain on the limited number of volunteers, the museum is now open from 10 AM until 4 PM Tuesday through Sunday.

Having satisfied that requirement, Trent hand carried letters from Mrs. West to AMA Alumni Foundation Chairman **Goodloe Saunders, '57**, and from Saunders to VDOT. *"We were told that the signs would be up in about six weeks, but they beat that estimate by more than a week,"* Trent says.

Mrs. West gave the signs in memory of her late husband, Norvell West, II. She will be recognized at the 2005 reunion for her unselfish act. Research has shown that these signs will bring many more people to visit the museum and also will help to locate "lost" alumni who may not know what is going on at AMA these days. Literally within minutes of the signs having gone up, the museum had its first visitor enticed off I-81 to see our gem of a museum. (story on page 51)



The photos, above and below, show the signs in place after the turnoffs onto the exit ramps.



There are signs near the Front Gate (left) from both directions on Route 11 – the Valley Pike.





FORT FOLKS - The daughter and granddaughter of Herb Hulvey, '24, Stephanie and Fulton Zumwalt, and a friend from Washington State on their first visit to the AMA Museum. Herb and "Boots" Walker owned and operated The Fort for many years.



HAIL, COLUMBIA! - Bill Willoughby, '50, and Doris on a visit to our museum from Columbia, South Carolina.



CIVIL WAR CONNECTION - Bill "Red" Rubush, '49, and Julian Quarles, '35, catch up on very OLD times. Julian's father's brother had been killed in action in the Civil War Battle of Second Manassas and had been laid to rest by Red's great grandfather!



ON TOUR - Bill Rubush, '49, right, leads a group on a tour of the AMA Museum during his two-and-half-week stint as a volunteer.



ON TRACK - Duke Fancher, '58, ready for his first ride on the chair lift recently installed at the Alumni House. The chair moves up the track, left, to the second floor and is used to transport both people and heavy packages to the office area.



DO YOU HAVE A "DOOBER" FOR YOUR CAP? This little gizmo fits on the back of your baseball cap.

See the pullout catalog in the center of this issue.

Board hears about Reunion 2005, new signs, museum plans, critical need for volunteers

The Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association Board of Directors met in Martinsville on 18 September as bad weather plagued Southwest Virginia. Only ten board members made it to the meeting.

President **Garry Granger, '71**, gave a verbal financial report in the absence of Treasurer **John Hash, '75**, indicating that Reunion 2004 had a small profit and that income from the Silent Auction, the Tower of Power, the golf team contribution and miscellaneous income exceeded \$10,000.

Director **Steve Trent, '70**, reported that Mrs. Norvell West was contributing \$10,500 to erect directional signs on Interstate 81 and US 11 pointing the way to the AMA Museum.

AMA Foundation Chairman **Goodloe Saunders, '57**, sent a letter to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) requesting the manufacture and installation of the signs. VDOT promised the signs by 1 November, but they were in place at the end of September (story on page 9).

Director **Gordon Metz, '68**, suggested that Mrs. West be thanked at a ceremony during Reunion 2005. She is the mother of Board Member **Norvell West, '83**.

Reunion 2005 plans

Vice President and Reunion 2005 Chairman **Frank Williamson, '60**, announced that the theme of next year's reunion will be: 'Til there are only two, a repeat of the 1997 program which honored AMA's founder **Professor Charles S. Roller, Sr., Colonel Tom Roller, General Charles S. Roller, Jr., and Colonel and Mrs. Mal Livick**. (see page 80) Studer made recommendations for ways to better organize future reunions and Trent was named to lead the volunteers at the next reunion.

Williamson reported that there had been a good response to the evaluation forms sent out after Reunion 2004. "We learned some things we didn't know and will be addressing the concerns expressed and the suggestions made," he said.

Director **Don Studer** said the need



INTREPID LEADERS - Ten members of the AMA Alumni Association Board of Directors made it to Martinsville on 18 September for the Fall Board meeting despite terrible weather conditions. L. to r., standing, Master Sergeant Don Studer, Frank Spencer, '49, Steve Trent, '70, Gordon Metz, '68, and George Holt, '60. Seated, Garry Granger, '71, Lewie Kennett, '72, Gary Nicholson, '70, Dave Conrad, '59, and Frank Williamson, '60.

for volunteers at the AMA Alumni House/Museum is critical. "Now, we must be open six days a week for six hours a day for VDOT to keep the signs up on I-81 and US 11," he said. "There are just four of us who are consistently there and we really can use some help." (story on page 13) Studer also reported that beginning in the Fall of 2005, the principal display in our museum will be a tribute to AMA alumni who served in the Korean and/or Vietnam Wars.

More KIAs found

Studer also revealed that three more alumni have been identified as having been killed in action, one each in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. (story on page 19) He said that research into old school records continues and any other names turned up will be announced.

President Granger reported that **Bruce Orenstein, '69**, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, and Committee Member **Bob Bradford, '50**, have reviewed and revised the application for AMA Legacy Scholarships. Granger said that our extant application had been unnecessarily difficult

when compared to similar applications for other scholarship awards.

There was a discussion of the condition of Big Barracks and fears were expressed that another winter without adequate roof repairs might make the building "unfixable." President Granger will contact the Virginia United Pentecostal Church, owners of AMA, to see what are their plans in this regard.

Where is the bell?

Efforts are underway to locate the Southern Railway bell which once hung in the sentry box (or bell tower as it was called in later days). It is believed that the courtyard bell may have been purchased at auction by an AMA alumnus.

With regret, the board accepted the resignation of **Jim Council, '49**, who has moved to San Antonio.

Granger acknowledged again the contributions of the family of the late **Parker Ward, '54**. The family and the Class of 1954 are covering the lease expenses for the House from May of 2004 until May of 2005, and have challenged the Class of 1955 to take on the obligation at that point.

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What is new at the AMA Museum? Plenty. If you haven't been there in a while, you'll now find:

☛ **Sergeant Joe's Test for Kids** which is available for children who visit the Museum. The test has questions from each room in the Museum. Each of those who take the test will receive an AMA decal.

☛ A folder called "Spotlight On" which contains articles on our alumni pulled from the pages of old issues of *The Bayonet*. Spotlight articles and more.

☛ A new plaque on our 105 mm howitzer showing that it is on permanent loan to the AMA Museum from the U. S. Army.

☛ A new plaque on our flagpole honoring **John Henderson, '69**, who donated two new flag poles which stand in front of the AMA Alumni House/Museum.

☛ A new picture display on the wall above the 1930-1960 display case.

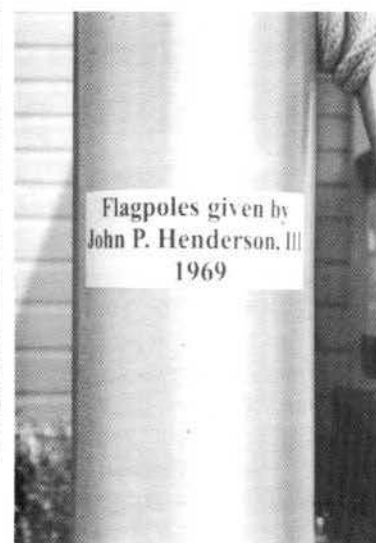
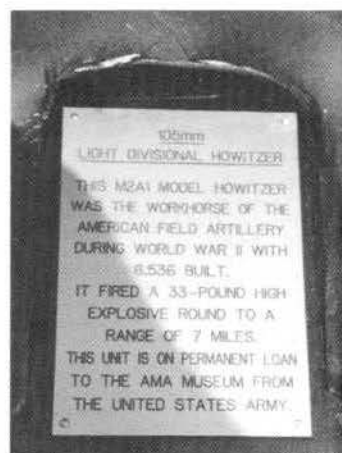
☛ A new picture display on the wall above the 1960-1984 display case.

☛ A new shako display and new rear entry decorations.

☛ A new picture above the uniform once worn by Gary Nicholson, '70.

The AMA Museum is a treasure trove of AMA history. There, you will find a complete set of *Recalls*, dozens of AMA catalogs over a wide span of years, and a collection of *Bayonets* from the years that the school was in operation. The museum also has a complete accumulation of *Bayonets* published by the AMA Alumni Foundation.

A visit to the AMA Museum is an eye-opening experience! If you want to verify an AMA memory, the AMA Museum is the place to look.



A NICE GIFT - Bob Walton, '65, has donated his mother's furniture to our museum. Thank you so much, Bob, for the beautiful pieces and the thought.



"The well's gone dry"

What has happened to our volunteers?

The moment it was announced that the AMA Museum was going to be open for six hours a day for six days a week, our faithful volunteers have disappeared.

AMA Alumni Foundation Chairman Goodloe Saunders, '57, says that the people who are keeping the museum open throughout the week need relief on the weekends. *"Four of us have our assigned days on Tuesday through Thursday: Sergeant Studer, Sergeant Josephson, Ben Zinkhan and I. When we don't have a volunteer for Saturday or Sunday, then one of us has to donate a weekend day to keep the museum open."*

As signs have been erected on I-81 and US 11 directing travelers to the museum, AMA is required to have the museum open six days a week. The only day of the week that the museum is closed is Monday.

"When we said we were going to be open six days a week, everyone seems to have figured that we have all of those days covered," Saunders says.

"But the well's gone dry. It's now pretty much up to the four of us to cover the Alumni House/Museum every week."

He points out that there have been

volunteers from as far away as Texas and Florida who have flown in for no other purpose than to man the museum for a few days. Yet, alumni who live within a few miles of Fort Defiance have not stepped forward.

"Getting the signs up on the interstate is a very important effort," says Saunders. *"We know from our research that having the signs in place will not only increase traffic at the museum, but will bring back to the campus alumni and friends with whom we have lost touch. Finding these 'lost sheep' is an important part of assuring our future, and we need to have the museum in operation to accomplish this."*

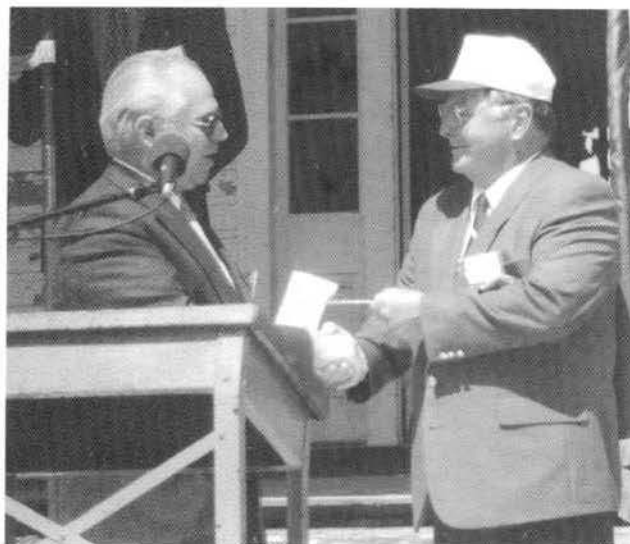
HOW ABOUT YOU?

Can you help out on a Saturday or Sunday?

If you can, please call the museum at 540/248-3007.

Or E-mail:

AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com
Joe, Don, Goodloe and Ben certainly will appreciate your volunteering!



KEY TO THE FUTURE - It's May of 1999 and then President of the AMA Alumni Association Goodloe Saunders, '57, accepts the ceremonial key to the AMA Alumni House/Museum from Reverend James Dunlap who represented the Pentecostal Church group which owns AMA's buildings and grounds.

Bill Rubush, '49, reports for duty

While the search goes on for museum volunteers from far and near, **Bill Rubush, '49**, and his faithful dog, Molly, reported from Florida for a two-and-a-half week tour of duty at our museum. He towed his Airstream trailer all the way from Seminole, parked it behind the AMA Alumni House/Museum, and made that his home while he volunteered at the museum.

Bill led tours, helped to plow through mountains of AMA records looking for gems, provided general assistance and had a ball! He had conferred with his classmate **Ed Chauncey, '49**, who is leading the effort to examine, study and classify thousands of documents produced when AMA was open. As reported previously, an effort is underway to separate the wheat from the chaff and to preserve those things which

help the museum tell the history of AMA.

Museum Volunteer **Ben Zinkhan, '60**, said, *"Bill even mowed the grass one day! We really enjoyed having him here with us and I know that he had a great time also."*

Said Bill: *"I had a wonderful time at AMA. I got to see some old friends and to make some new ones, and spending the night on campus again was really great."*



HOME AWAY FROM HOME - Bill Rubush parked his trailer behind the museum while he volunteered there for two-and-a-half weeks.

Simplified application

Scholarship Chairman Orenstein talks about a new direction for annual awards

The application form for the AMA Legacy Scholarship Program has been simplified and a new award created which does not rely solely on academic excellence.

Scholarship Chairman Bruce Orenstein, '69, said that his committee has "been working hard to address and rectify as many, if not all of the issues we have had to consider." This includes students who won a scholarship in more than one year, high school seniors competing with college students for the scholarships, the absolutely superior academic records of many applicants, and the demanding application for the stipends.

Orenstein said that "The Foundation Trustees had directed the committee to emphasize high school seniors in the award of applications. Then, the Foundation has agreed to examine the dollar amount of the awards each year to emphasize the size of the awards over the number of scholarships offered. Finally, we have streamlined the actual application itself."

The essay part of the application has been simplified and the requirements for backup data to be submitted with the application have been eased. Orenstein said that in 2004, there were four times as many people asking for scholarship applications than those who actually submitted the applications. "We have heard from a number of people that ours was one of the most demanding applications that their children and grandchildren faced," Orenstein said.

Not based solely on academics

In addition, one scholarship will be awarded that gives a higher weight to leadership qualities over academic achievement. "We have had so many applicants with near perfect academic records that we believe others who may not have the top grades but do have the qualities that AMA tried to instill in each of us should have an opportunity to receive our help," Orenstein said.

"All of these changes have taken place over the last year to respond to alumni concerns and to be more relevant to today's student while maintaining the high standards of the AMA Alumni Association and Foundation. We hope this will mean more applicants in the future."

Orenstein also announced that Bruce Higgenbotham Hemp will judge the scholarship applications in 2004. "Bruce is a Stuart Hall graduate who has a BA in mathematics and speech communication from Westhampton College, University of Richmond, and a MEd in mathematics from the University of Virginia," Orenstein said.



BRINGING GOOD NEWS - Bruce Orenstein, '69, Chairman of the AMA Legacy Scholarship Committee, announces a scholarship winner at an AMA reunion.

She replaces Judy Sinkovitz who has been the scholarship judge for the past three years. Orenstein said that she has retired from her teaching position and moved away from the area. "We thank Judy wholeheartedly for her dedication and hard work over the past three years and wish her the best," he said.

Bruce Hemp taught computer science and math at Stuart Hall for 14 years and was Director of Admissions there. She currently teaches math at Fort Defiance High School and regularly presents workshops at local, state and national conferences. She has been a participant in the NASA Educational Workshop for Mathematics, Science and Technology and has received several grants which allow for greater

access to technology in the classroom.

Hemp is on NASA's Swift Educational Committee which oversees materials produced for NASA's Swift Project. She is also on the board of Jacob's Ladder, a five year summer residential program for exceptionally gifted 4th to 8th graders who are at risk of not reaching their educational potential.

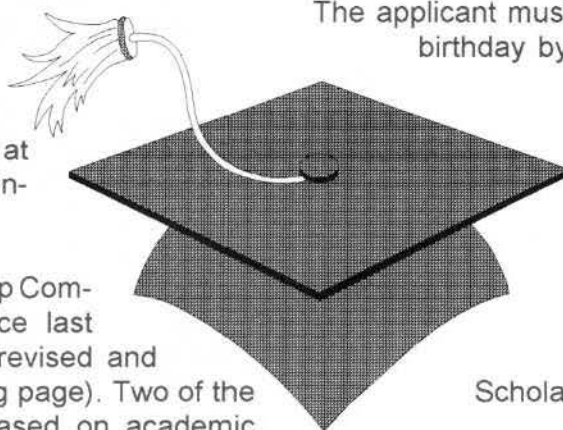
Bruce was the recipient of the 1998 NTTI Teacher of the Year Award. (See Bruce's complete biography on NASA's website, Swift Program)

Said Orenstein, "We are lucky and honored to have such a distinguished educator as our judge for the AMA Legacy Scholarships. We really look forward to working with her. With a new application form and one scholarship not based entirely on academics, she will have a most interesting challenge."

Three \$2,000 AMA Legacy Scholarships are available

Applications now obtainable from AMA Alumni House

AMA Alumni Foundation Chairman **Goodloe Saunders, '57**, has announced that three AMA Legacy Scholarships – each one worth \$2,000 – will be awarded at Reunion 2005 to the direct descendants of AMA alumni.



The applicant must not have passed his or her 25th birthday by 29 April 2005, the date that the scholarships are awarded, and must be enrolled in or accepted at an educational institution beyond the high school level. The scholarships will be paid directly to the institutions.

Bruce Orenstein, '69, Scholarship Committee Chairman, said that since last year, the application has been revised and simplified (see the story on facing page). Two of the scholarships will be awarded based on academic merit and participation in extracurricular activities. The third scholarship may be given to a worthy applicant who academic record is not perfect but whose leadership qualities excel, a recognition that AMA was there to help this kind of cadet to succeed in life.

To be eligible to receive an AMA Legacy Scholarship, the applicant must be the direct descendant of an AMA alumnus or faculty member. Children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, etc., are eligible to apply whether they are natural born, adopted or step-children, grandchildren, etc.

To obtain a scholarship application, write to:
Scholarships, AMA Alumni Foundation
Post Office Box 100
Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0100
Phone: 540/248-3007 or FAX 540/248-4533
E-mail: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 26 MARCH 2005 in order that judging may be completed and all applicants advised of the judge's decisions in advance of Reunion 2005.

Successful applicants will be invited to attend the Awards Banquet on Friday 29 April, 2005 during Reunion 2005.

VMI Scholarships from AMA continue

The AMA Alumni Foundation will continue its annual contribution to the AMA/VMI Scholarship Fund.

As in the past few years, VMI will receive \$2,000 to fund four \$500 stipends at the Institute. VMI selects the cadets who receive these awards.

The VMI program was spearheaded by **Frank Spencer, '49**, a 1953 graduate of VMI, in honor of **General Charles S. Roller, Jr.**, a 1901 VMI graduate. There have always been close ties between AMA and VMI manifested most dramatically in the architectural design of Big Barracks which follows the VMI style.



SAM LAMBERT, '59, and his wife outside the AMA Alumni House/Museum.

Record search finds three more KIAs in World War II, Korean and Vietnam Wars

A continuing search of AMA documents has turned up the names of three more Augusta men who were killed in action, one each in World War II, the Korean War and the war in Vietnam.

Second Lieutenant Frederick Sprigg Hayes, Jr., '46, of Barnesville, Maryland was killed in Korea on 22 September 1952, just five days before his 24th birthday. He was assigned to G Company, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Division. He had been wounded 9 August and had returned to duty when he stepped on a land mine, causing his death.



**Fred Hayes,
KIA, Korea,
1946 Recall**

First Lieutenant Thomas Edward Carnegie, '61, of Wyckoff, New Jersey was killed by hostile small arms fire in Bien Hoa Province, Vietnam on 18 April 1968. His status as

KIA was established when the AMA Museum received an inquiry from a New Jersey historical society. He was on the fencing team and played baseball at Augusta. His brother, **John David Carnegie**, also attended AMA.

Seaman Joseph Thomas Winn, '42, US Merchant Marine, perished when his ship *Atlantic Sun* (a tanker) was torpedoed and sunk in the North Atlantic on 15 February 1943. All 46 members of the crew were lost.

The names of these AMA heroes were turned up by **Master Sergeant Joe Josephson** as he and other AMA volunteers continue to go through old school records.

Two other AMA alumni were killed in the Korean War: **First Lieutenant Rahily Rhodes, '47**, and **PFC Gloyd "Woody" Rosen, '51**.

Other Augusta men who were killed in action in Vietnam were **Lance Corporal Ernest Beauchamp, '60**, **Lance Corporal Walter Drosd, '66**, **Private David Elman, '63**, **Private First Class Zane Glazar, '62**, **Major Otis Gordon, '46**, **First Lieutenant Lawrence Greene, '61**, **Private Jeff Hoagland, '64**, **Chief Warrant Officer John Hosken, '66**, **Major Charles Lang, '59**, **Lieutenant Charles "Moe" Moran, '50**, and **Corporal Neil "Mac" MacIver, '61**.

With the addition of Seaman Winn's name, there are 53 AMA alumni who died in World War II.

Help needed in Staunton, Richmond

We are looking for volunteers to do some relatively easy research about AMA in libraries and newspaper morgues in Richmond and Staunton. If you can help, please phone 540/248-3007, or e-mail: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com



**Tom Carnegie,
KIA, Vietnam,
1961 Recall**



MILITARY FAMILY - This photo was made at Fort Dix, New Jersey in 1942 or 1943. The AMA Cadets are, center, **Geof Layng**, Captain Adjutant in 1946-47, and right, **Tony Layng**. The officer is their Dad, **Colonel Grant Layng, CO, 71st Regiment, 44th Division**, on the eve of his deployment to Europe. He retired after World War II as a lieutenant general. Geof now lives in San Clemente, California where he is a motivational speaker while Tony lives in Winston-Salem, a retired professor of anthropology at Elmira College in New York State.



BEFORE D-DAY - At the right, above, is **Lieutenant Elbert "Unk" Hamilton, '42**, at Witham Air Base in England just before D-Day in 1944. Unk was wounded in the Battle of Normandy and died on the 4th of July in an English hospital. The other officer is unidentified.

At AMA Museum

AMA Korean, Vietnam War vets to be honored next

2005 will mark the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II with Germany's surrender in May and the Japanese surrender coming in August of 1945. That anniversary also will mark the closing of the World War II display which has been featured at the AMA Museum for the past four years. In its place, a display will be constructed to honor AMA alumni who served during the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Says **Sergeant Don Studer**, "In order to have a display which tells the story of AMA's involvement in and commitment to these conflicts, we will need the same kind of assistance from the veterans of these wars that we got from our World War II vets."

The display will honor in particular the three known AMA Korean War dead and the 12 known KIAs from Vietnam. "In addition, an effort will be made to collect stories from our alumni and faculty members about their experiences in country during the Korean and Vietnam Wars," **Sergeant Joe Josephson** said. The museum is looking for uniforms and uniform parts from those eras, letters to and from home, photos taken during these wars, medals earned, commendations awarded, and stories, stories, stories.

The Korean War, often called the "Forgotten War" since it was "squeezed in" between World War II and Vietnam, began on 25 June 1950 and ended officially 1 January 1955, taking 36,616* American lives.

The United States drifted into the Vietnam War, first sending a few military advisors and finally having hundreds of thousands of troops on the ground when a truce was agreed to 7 May 1975. There were 58,178 Americans KIAs and MIAs in the Vietnam War.

The three AMA men killed in Korea:

- † **Second Lieutenant Frederick Hayes, '46**
- † **First Lieutenant Rahily Rhodes, '47**
- † **Private First Class Gloyd Rosen, '51**

The 12 Augusta men killed in Vietnam:

- † **Lance Corporal Ernest Beauchamp, '60**
- † **First Lieutenant Thomas Carnegie, '61**
- † **Lance Corporal Walter Drosd, '66**
- † **Private David Herbert Elman, '63**
- † **PFC Zane Glazar, '62**
- † **Major Otis Gordon, '46**
- † **First Lieutenant Lawrence Greene, '61**
- † **Private Jeff Hoagland, '64**
- † **Chief Warrant Officer John Hosken, '66**
- † **Major Charles Vanderbilt Lang, '59**
- † **Lieutenant Charles "Moe" Moran, '50**
- † **Corporal Neil "Mac" MacIver, '61**

* The Department of Defense recently revised downward the long standing figure of 54,246 KIAs in the Korean War to 36,616.



WAR SCENES - Above, in the Korean War, American GIs prepare to attack a hill in Central Korea, 1953. Below, a familiar scene in the Vietnam War: helicopters on patrol in 1968 during the Tet offensive.



Bell P.A.

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John T. Bell '54
Bell Tower Building

101 West Jefferson Street
Phone: (301) 762-1717

Rockville, Maryland 20850
Fax: (301) 279-7755



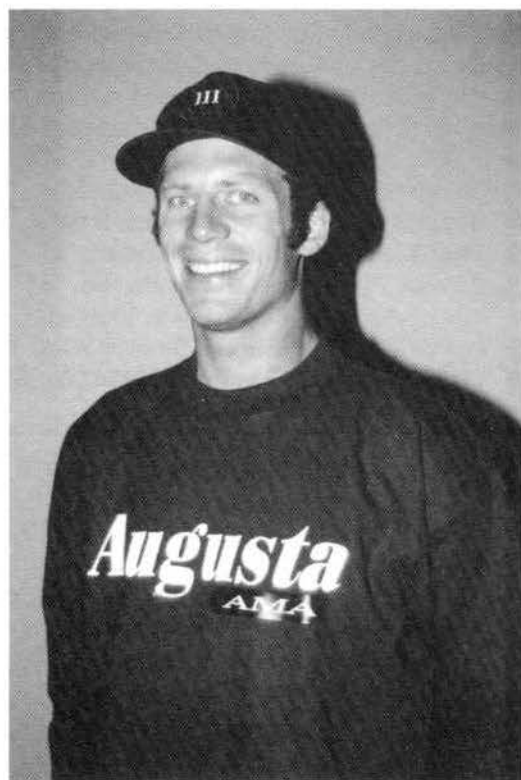
ALL ABOARD! - When you attended AMA, was this a familiar sight to you? Before World War II, many cadets arrived in Fort Defiance by train. For many years after, cadets boarded antique coaches for the annual trip to the Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester, then a four hour trip as the train creaked and groaned over underused rails. Julian Quarles, '35, remembers marching to the station on some November 11th to ride the train to the Armistice Day Parade in Staunton. Now, the Fort Defiance Railroad Station sits, empty and unused. But that is changing. A group called Shenandoah Valley Railroad has received a \$76,000 federal grant to explore an excursion train between Staunton and Mount Crawford. The plan calls for a facelift of the Fort Defiance station with the installation of modern rest rooms and a souvenir shop. A model train display also is planned in the station.



New at the PX!

Were you in the AMA Band? Then, you'll want a band cap like the one being worn by Bob Wilson, left. With Fall here, how about a new AMA sweat? New designs are now in stock such as the one at right worn by Brian Oas. Pictured is AMA blue with a white "Augusta" and white-on-red "AMA." Other sweat colors are white and gray.

There is a pull-out AMA PX catalog in the center of this issue from which you can order these and other unique AMA items!



Changed your address?

Have you moved recently? We need to know so that you can continue to receive *The Bayonet!* Send your new address to: ADDRESS CHANGE, P.O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101

AMA items retrieved from Marshall Library

A number of AMA related items were recently retrieved from the Marshall Library on the VMI campus in Lexington. **AMA Museum Administrative Director Liz Hash** reported that there were several pictures of interest including one of the 1940 AMA football team and another of the Roller Rifles on parade in Staunton.

There were three unusual wide shots of the Class of 1927 and photos of two of the former AMA Alumni Association Presidents, **Parker Ward, '54**, and **Seymour Wilks, '48**, both now deceased. Hash said that there was also a framed photo of **Lieutenant Herbert Southall Richey, Class of 1907**, who was mortally wounded at St. Mihiel, France during the First World War. Richey is pictured in his WW I uniform, a member of Company E, 9th Regiment, 1st Division, U. S. Infantry. He graduated the year that AMA's founder, **Professor Charles S. Roller, Senior** passed away and the year that the Professor's sons, **Thomas J.** and **Charles S. Roller, Jr.** began their long and distinguished stewardship of the little military school in Fort Defiance.

Bamberger, '71, checks in

Joe Bamberger, '71, has been in touch with Alumni Association President **Garry Granger, '71**, to bring him up to date on his life. Joe and his family have lived in Florida for the last 17 years. He is a foreman and superintendent of iron workers and has worked on skyscrapers all over the country including Universal City and Sea World in Florida as well as the Kennedy Space Center. Before he moved to Florida, Joe lived in Denver.

His daughter lives in Harrisonburg where she owns the Wood Fired Oven Restaurant. A son manages a restaurant in Cocoa Beach, and two younger sons, nine and eleven, live at home in



**Joe
Bamberger
1971 Recall**



SHOOTING THE RAPIDS - Richard McLaughlin, '49, arrow, enjoys some whitewater rafting in the New River Gorge in Fayette County, West Virginia. Richard's party rode 20 miles through six classes of rapids ending at the Parachute Bridge.

Rockledge, FL. Joe was remarried four years ago and has two step children, three grandchildren and two step-grandchildren. You can send an e-mail to Joe at: rbamberger@cfl.rr.com.

Schissel, '75, in Iraq

Peter Schissel, '75, reports that his USAR medical unit has been mobilized and says he is "honored to serve our country in some small capacity." He says that his time at AMA was memorable and that he always had wanted to go to a military school. AMA "gave me a disciplined lifestyle that really helps me now."

E-mail: peter.schissel@us.army.mil



**Peter
Schissel,
1975 Recall**

Clements, '50, loses his condo in Hurricane Ivan

A condo at Perdido Key, Florida, owned by **Tommy Clements, '50**, was a total loss after Hurricane Ivan roared through. Tommy said he had

five feet of sand in his unit and no furniture. Clements had donated a week in the condo to the Reunion 2004 Silent Auction, a week that was purchased by **Frank Williamson, '60**. Clements told Williamson that he does plan to restore the unit and that Frank will have first call when the unit is ready for human habitation. Good luck, Tommy. Sorry to hear the news.



**Tommy
Clements,
1950 Recall**

Melcher, '71, in new job

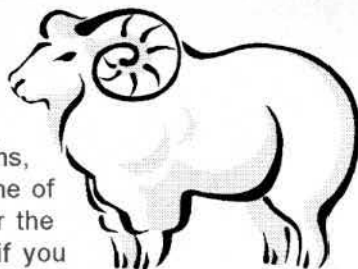
Ron "Scootch" Melcher, '71, has gone to work for DADCO, a world leader in gas spring technology, after 18 years with AIP. He plans to do some duck hunting this fall in Michigan and Ohio. His oldest son, Nik, got married in August and they are raising Scootch's two "grandsons" - a collie and a black lab.



**"Scootch"
Melcher,
1971 Recall**

Lost Sheep

Over the past few months, we have lost touch with some of our alumni. Please look over the list below and let us know if you can tell us how to reconnect with any of these fellows. Thanks!



Last known address

Robert Neale, '36 P. O. Box 9412, Baltimore, MD
 Jean Alcosta, '37 830A S. 2nd St, Philadelphia, PA
 Robert A. Lipp, '41 164 Seahaven Ct, Vallejo, CA
 William Owen, '46 1109 Lakeview Crest, Birmingham, AL
 Howard Colliflower, '53 43 Harman Dr, Cameron, NC
 Delford Omdal, '62 353 Homestead Rd, Belle Mead, NJ
 George Beaver, '64 P. O. Box 157, Dublin, VA
 Randy Holiman, '64 Sweet Briar, VA
 Walter Buffey, '68 843 Duke of Gloucester, Roanoke, VA
 Ed Moorefield, '70 4029 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA
 Rich Maschak, '71 21 Valmoore Dr., Poquoson, VA
 Robert Stump, '71 RD4, Box 165, Newport, PA
 Larry "Stride" Coleman, '71 Fayetteville, NC
 Ward Northrup, '73 9229 Arlington Blvd, Fairfax, VA
 Ed Cabo, '74 11 Conklin Ave, Selden, NY
 David Saslaw, '74 101 W. Jefferson St, Rockville, MD
 David Siegel, '75 2014 Shoal Rd, Lincolnton, NC
 Major Michael Ridge, '79 9 S. Morris St, Richmond, VA
 Julius Boles, '82 13280 Martinsville Hwy, Cascade, VA
 Bill Akers, '84 1929 Chapman St, SW, Roanoke, VA
 Adekunle Lawson, '84 P.O. Box 11651, Lynchburg, VA

If you have a current snail mail or e-mail address for any of these folks, please let us know:

Write: Locator, PO Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437
FAX: 540/248-4533 **e-mail:** AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com

Jim Lane, '49, looks for friends

Jim Lane, '49, is one of those guys you want to help. He has hosted alumni meetings in the Virginia Beach area and always keeps a sharp eye out for items of interest to *Bayonet* readers. So, when we learned that he was trying to locate some fellows who attended AMA when he did, we decided to help. Here is Jim's list of the lost:

Billy Woods - From Salem, VA. Spent 44-45 and 47-48 at AMA. Played basketball and football. On the Honor Committee. Roomed with Lane and **Bill Grace** in 44-45. Went into the Navy in 1945.
Dwight Moody MacCorkle, '47 - Three years at AMA. From Old Fields, West Virginia. He also was a Navy man.

Samuel W. Neff, Jr., '47 - Hometown: Portsmouth, VA. Attended 43-45, went into the Navy, and came back, graduating in 1948. Captain of swimming team, 150 pound football and track teams
Wellyn "Bill" Sellers, Jr., '48 - From Battle Creek, Michigan. Last known address: Roanoke, VA. May have passed away.

Augustus Cockerell, '45 - Three year man. Went into Marines. Last known address: Camp Lejeune, NC.

Can you help Jim find his old friends? Use one of the addresses in the story above to get in touch. Thanks!

Near Blacksburg

Don Kelsey, '30, one of first at crash which killed Audie Murphy

On 28 May of 1971 - Memorial Day weekend - World War II's most decorated hero was a passenger in a private plane on its way from Atlanta to Roanoke when, in fog and rain, the aircraft slammed into Brush Mountain near Blacksburg. Audie Murphy, who earned the Congressional Medal of Honor for standing atop a burning tank destroyer to hold off the advance of an entire company of German troops, was killed instantly.

One of the first to reach the crash site was **Don Kelsey**, '30, ironically the owner of the Lyric Theater in Blacksburg where Murphy's films were shown, and a volunteer on the Blacksburg Fire and Rescue Squad. "There was no chance of anyone getting out of there alive," he told the *Montgomery News-Messenger*. He said that there were pieces of the plane scattered over a wide area and all five occupants were "just torn apart."

Kelsey's father had built the Lyric Theater in 1929 and Don went on to operate it until 1989. The theater was closed for a while, then renovated in the late 90's. Don died in 1991, but was at the crash site in 1974 when the Veterans of Foreign Wars dedicated a monument to Murphy.

Kelsey was a superb athlete at AMA playing on the state championship football team, wrestling and being captain of the baseball team. He was in both the Major and Minor Monogram Clubs, Vice-President of the Big Five Club and an officer of the YMCA. Kelsey was a non-com in what was then called the Quartermaster Company, later to be known as Headquarters Company.

Audie Murphy already had the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars and three Purple Hearts when he jumped onto a burning tank destroyer in northeastern France and held off a German company

with a .50 calibre machine gun. This won for him the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest of the 33 medals and citations he earned in World War II. After the war, Murphy starred in some 44 movies including his life story.



Don Kelsey, AMA 1929 football star



A RARE PICTURE - Audie Murphy wearing all of his medals. The self-effacing hero seldom did so.

Battle streamers to decorate flags at Alumni House

Battle streamers commemorating conflicts from World War II through the Gulf War of 1990-91 and the Kosovo Campaigns of 1999 will grace the flags which stand in the Hall of Honor at the AMA Alumni House/Museum.

Augusta alumni and friends are being given the opportunity to purchase these battle streamers which recognize Army and Air Force operations from 1941 through Kosovo. The engagement name appears on the streamer (see right and below). Navy and Marine Corps battle streamers are available on special order and include bronze, silver and/or gold stars on the ribbon, but not the engagement or battle name.

The streamers are 2.75 inches wide by four feet long, each with a brass grommet at the top, and cut or sewn tails. They are embroidered with the battle or engagement on the authorized campaign ribbon for that action.

The Army and Air Force streamers are available at \$50 each which includes a small donation to the AMA Alumni Foundation. Order instructions and a list of streamers available will be found on the next two pages. An order blank is found below.

Navy and Marine vets should complete Section B on the order form and we will get a quote for you.

Here is the opportunity to remember and salute your brothers in arms. To remember a battle that YOU were in, or in which your brother, father or grandfather took part.



Master Sergeants Don Studer and Joe Josephson attach the Normandy battle streamer to the U. S. Army flag on display at the AMA Museum.

NORMANDY 1944

MAIL TO: Streamers, P. O. Box 101,
Fort Defiance, VA 24437

Your name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Catalog #	Description	Price
	TOTAL	

Streamers are \$50.00 each. This includes shipping to the AMA Alumni/House Museum and a donation to AMA. To charge to VISA or MasterCard, furnish card number, expiration date, and sign your name.

All orders will be acknowledged. The \$50 purchase price is tax deductible.

SECTION B

MAIL TO: Streamers, P. O. Box 101,
Fort Defiance, VA 24437

I am interested in the purchase of a Navy or Marine battle streamer for exhibit at the AMA Alumni House/Museum.

Please quote me a price. The battle(s) or engagement(s) in which I am interested are:

Your name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Official U. S. Battle Streamers

These are official U.S. Department of Defense authorized battle streamers which are issued to the Army and the Air Force. Navy and Marine Corps streamers also are available on special order and include bronze, silver and/or gold stars on the campaign ribbon, but do NOT include the engagement or battle name. We will give you a special quote on Navy or Marine streamers. Streamers are 2.75" wide X 4' long with a brass grommet at the top and cut or sewn tails. They are embroidered with the battle or engagement on the authorized campaign ribbon for that action.

WORLD WAR II ASIATIC/PACIFIC THEATER

BSR429	AF	Antisubmarine
BSR430	AF	Air combat AP 1941-45
BSR431	Army & AF	Philippines, 1941-42
BSR432	Army & AF	Burma 1941-42
BSR433	Army & AF	Central Pacific 1941-43
BSR434	Army & AF	East Indies, 1942
BSR435	Army	India-Burma, 1942-45
BSR436	Army & AF	Air offensive, Japan, 1942
BSR437	Army & AF	Aleutian Islands, 1942-43
BSR438	Army & AF	China Defensive 1942-45
BSR439	Army & AF	Papua, 1942-43
BSR440	Army & AF	Guadalcanal, 1942-43
BSR441	Army & AF	New Guinea, 1943-44
BSR442	Army & AF	Northern Solomons, 1943-44
BSR443	AF	Eastern Mandates, 1943-44
BSR444	Army & AF	Bismark Archipelago, 1943-44
BSR445	Army & AF	Western Pacific, 1944-45
BSR446	Army & AF	Leyte, 1944-45
BSR447	Army & AF	Ryukyus, 1945
BSR448	Army & AF	Southern Philippines, 1945
BSR449	Army & AF	Central Burma, 1945
BSR450	Army & AF	Luzon, 1944-45
BSR451	Army & AF	China offensive, 1945
BSR452	AF	India-Burma, 1942-45
BSR453	Army	Eastern Mandates, 1944

WORLD WAR II EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST/ AFRICA

BSR552	AF	Antisubmarine, 1941-45
BSR553	AF	Air combat, EAME, 1941-45
BSR554	Army & AF	Egypt-Libya, 1942-43
BSR555	Army & AF	Air offensive, Europe, 1942-44
BSR556	Army & AF	Algeria-French Morocco, 1942
BSR557	AF	Tunisia (Air), 1943
BSR558	AF	Sicily (Air), 1943
BSR559	AF	Naples-Foggia (Air), 1943-44
BSR560	Army & AF	Anzio, 1944

BSR561	Army & AF	Rome-Arno, 1944
BSR562	Army & AF	Normandy 1944
BSR563	Army & AF	Northern France, 1944
BSR564	Army & AF	Southern France, 1944
BSR565	Army & AF	Northern Apennines, 1944-45
BSR566	Army & AF	Rhineland, 1944-45
BSR567	Army & AF	Ardennes-Alsace, 1944-45
BSR568	Army & AF	Central Europe, 1945
BSR569	Army & AF	Po Valley, 1945
BSR570	Army	Tunisia, 1942-43
BSR571	Army	Sicily, 1943
BSR572	Army	Naples-Foggia, 1943-44

KOREAN WAR

BSR627	Army & AF	UN defensive, 1950
BSR628	Army & AF	UN offensive, 1950
BSR629	Army & AF	CCF intervention, 1950-51
BSR630	Army & AF	1st UN counteroffensive, 1951
BSR631	Army & AF	CCF Spring offensive, 1951
BSR632	Army & AF	UN Summer-Fall offensive, 1951
BSR633	Army & AF	2nd Korean Winter, 1951-52
BSR634	Army & AF	Korean Summer-Fall, 1952
BSR635	Army & AF	3rd Korean Winter, 1952-53
BSR636	Army & AF	Korean Summer, 1953

VIETNAM WAR

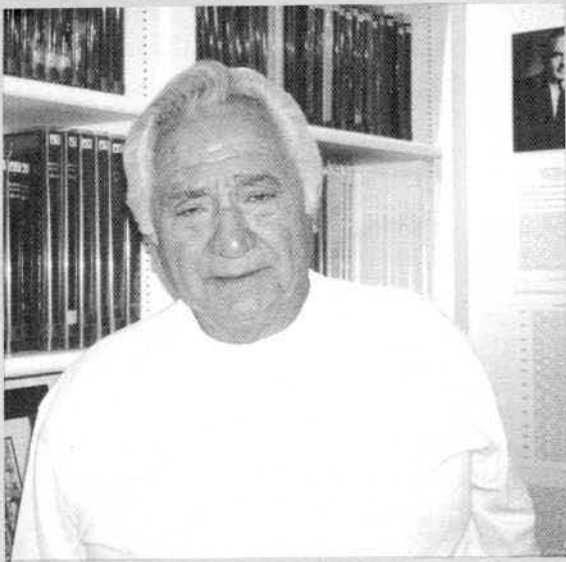
BSR702	AF	Vietnam Advisory, 1961-65
BSR703	AF	Vietnam defensive, 1965-66
BSR704	AF	Vietnam air, 1966
BSR705	AF	Vietnam air offensive, 1966-67
BSR706	AF	Vietnam air offensive, Phase II, 1967-68
BSR707	AF	Vietnam air offensive, Phase III, 1968
BSR708	AF	Vietnam air/ground, 1968

In the Hall of Honor in the AMA Alumni House/Museum are found the American flag, the AMA school flag and the flags of the different branches of the service. To these flags we hope to attach battle streamers representing the many engagements in which AMA men have fought. These streamers may be purchased at \$50 each which includes shipping and a 10% contribution to the AMA Alumni Foundation. As these streamers are gifts to the Foundation, the purchase of them is tax deductible. Order by number please. Make check payable to: AMA Alumni Foundation.

Mail to: STREAMERS, P. O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437.

VISA, MasterCard or American Express accepted. To charge, please sign your order and give the card's expiration date. Charge orders may be FAXed to 540/248-4533.

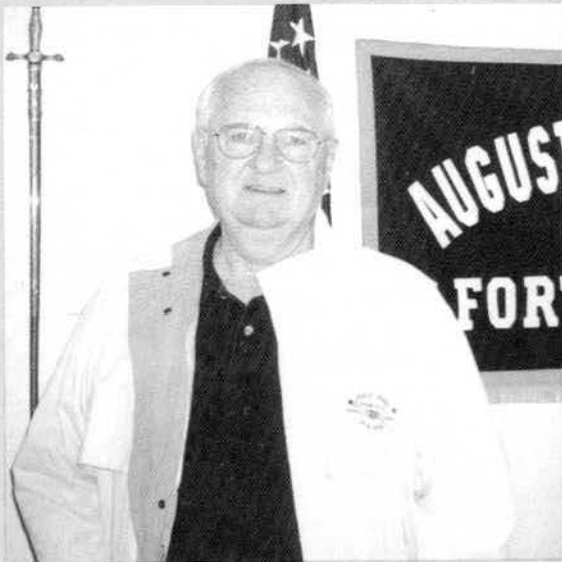
BSR709	AF	Vietnam air offensive, Phase IV, 1968-69	BSR807	AF	Cambodia, 1975
BSR710	Army & AF	Tet counteroffensive, 1969	BSR808	AF	Vietnam, 1975
BSR711	Army & AF	Vietnam Summer-Fall, 1969	BSR809	AF	Mayaguez operation, 1975
BSR712	AF	Vietnam Winter-Spring, 1969-70	BSR810	Army & AF	Grenada, 1983
BSR713	Army & AF	Sanctuary counter- offensive, 1970	BSR811	Army & AF	Panama, 1989-90
BSR714	AF	Southwest Monsoon, 1970	BSR812	AF	Congo, 1960-62
BSR715	AF	Commando Hunt V, 1970-71	BSR813	AF	Vietnam, 1958-65
BSR716	AF	Commando Hunt VI, 1971	BSR814	AF	Laos, 1961-62
BSR717	AF	Commando Hunt VII, 1971-72	BSR 815	AF	Cambodia, 1973
BSR718	AF	Vietnam cease-fire, 1972-73	BSR 816	AF	Thailand, 1973
BSR720	Army	Vietnam counter- offensive, 1965-66	BSR817	AF	Lebanon, 1983-87
BSR721	Army	Vietnam counter- offensive, Phase IV, 1968	BSR818	AF	Libya-El Dorado Canyon, 1986
BSR722	Army	Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase II, 1966-67	BSR819	AF	Persian Gulf, 1987-90
BSR723	Army	Tet counteroffensive, 1968	BSR820	AF	Lebanon, 1958
BSR724	Army	Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase III, 1967-68	BSR821	AF	Taiwan Straits, 1958-59
BSR725	Army	Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase V, 1968	BSR822	AF	Quemoy & Matsu Islands, 1958-63
BSR726	Army	Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase VI, 1968-69	SOUTHWEST ASIA		
BSR727	Army	Vietnam counteroffensive, Phase VII, 1970-71	BSR824	Army & AF	Defense of Saudi Arabia, 1990-91
BSR 728	Army	Consolidation I, 1971	BSR825	Army & AF	Liberation and defense of Kuwait, 1991
BSR 729	Army	Consolidation II, 1971-73	BSR826	Army & AF	Southwest Asia cease-fire, 1991-95
BSR730	Army	Vietnam cease-fire, 1972-73	FORMER YUGOSLAVIA		
BSR731	Army	Vietnam advisory, 1962-65	BSR827	Army & AF	Kosovo air campaign
BSR732	Army	Winter-Spring, 1970	BSR838	Army & AF	Kosovo Defense Command
ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONS			AMERICAN THEATER		
BSR802	AF	Berlin, 1961-63	BSR427	Army & AF	Anti-submarine, 1941-45
BSR803	AF	Cuba, 1962-63	<i>Here is your opportunity to honor the men who served in one or more of these campaigns. To remember a battle YOU were in and to honor the guys who fought beside you. To honor AMA men who fought and died for our country in one of these historic engagements. Please - buy a battle streamer for our flag. Marine and Navy vets - see the notice on the previous page. We can get your battle streamers too!</i>		
BSR804	AF	Congo, 1964			
BSR805	Army & AF	Dominican Republic, 1965-66			
BSR806	AF	Korea, 1966-74			



ALAN VENZER, '45, visits the AMA Museum.



THE BIG ROOM? - No, this is Hoover Hall before classrooms were installed in 1910. The Big Room, above Hoover Hall, was AMA's gymnasium until the present gym was built in 1928.



STUART PARKS, '56, back at AMA again.



ALWAYS EAGER - These two guys do everything! They are Tim Mizer, the stepson of Ben Zinkhan, '60, and his friend Doug Malcolm. These fellows helped cook the barbecue at Reunion 2004 and they installed lights at the Front Gate in advance of the reunion. Plus they are always available to help even after they have worked a full shift. Thanks so much, men!



GREG PEARCE, '65, of Clarksville, Maryland in his Augusta golf shirt at the museum. Greg has donated a sword which is now hanging in the museum. Behind him in the photo, a D Company guidon, a mess jacket and a TV screen that features AMA videos.

TAPS



Please report deaths and illnesses of AMA alumni, faculty and friends to
The AMA Chaplain
Frank Spencer, '49
318 Harvest Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22903
804/977-0026

William E. Gregory, '36

No date or details available. At AMA: fencing, rifle team, tumbling team, Bible Class. Corporal, B Company. His hometown was Havana, Cuba when he was a cadet. He passed away in Germantown, Tennessee.



Bill Gregory,
1936 Recall

Eugene Decker Millar, '39

19 April 2004, at Pulaski (VA) General Hospital, 83. Played football and baseball at Hampden Sydney. Four years in the U.S. Navy in World War II in the South Pacific. Lived most of his life in Front Royal where he was employed by the Virginia State Health Department from which he retired after 30 years of service. Lived in Dublin, VA



Gene Millar,
1939 Recall

for the last few years. Survived by his wife, Louise, of Dublin; a sister, Marietta Neff of Cumberland, MD; sons, Charles of Radford, and Gary of Dublin; grandchildren, Leah Speno of Oklahoma City; John Millar of Front Royal; Virginia Webster and Elizabeth Ridnour, both of Alexandria; Louann Millar of Raleigh, NC; Hannah Millar of Burlington, NC; and four great-grandchildren. At AMA: football, basketball, baseball (a .333 hitter), Monogram Club.

Thorne C. McLoney, '49

1 August 2004, at home in Cynthiana, KY, age 73. Recently retired electrical inspector. Former owner of McLoney Electrical Wholesale. Served in the US Army. Survived by his wife, Anna, of Cynthiana; a daughter, Ann Huguelet of Lexington, KY; a brother, Douglas, of Morehead, KY; and two grandsons. At AMA: 1st lieutenant, battalion staff, assistant supply officer; Honor Roll, Beta Club. Reported by **Richard McLaughlin, '49**



Thorne McLoney,
1949 Recall

Sidney A. Taylor, '51

23 July 2004, of cancer, at home in Silver Spring, MD. Attended briefly the University of Virginia and later, Johns Hopkins University. For 45 years, an engineer in the Hopkins laboratories culminating with his appointment as senior engineer. After retiring, he spent eight years as a consultant with TSC/BIRD as a part of the Navy's Phalanx missile program. Received Navy Meritorious Service Award and a special citation for his contributions to the Navy Surface Missile Systems. Preceded in death in 2001 by his wife,



Sid Taylor,
1951 Recall

Barbara, by a son, Sidney, Jr. in the early 1950's, and a daughter, Cathy Taylor Koehn, who died in 1989. Survived by his sons; Matt, John and Brad; his daughters, Kim and Robin; 11 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. At AMA: Honor Roll, *Bayonet* and *Recall* staffs, baseball, Tiger football. Reported by **Hap Starr, '51**, and **Colonel Frank Pilley, '51**. (See Hap's tribute to Sid on page 66)

Hoyle "Benny" Long, Jr., '55

26 June 2004, at the Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Harrisonburg, 65. President and owner of BOA Distributors-Wholesale and Bedrooms of America Museum, both in New Market. Past President, New Market Chamber of Commerce; Past President, Stone-wall Jackson High School Booster Club. Survived by his wife, Judy Frye Long; two sons, Barton and Harold, both of New Market; a daughter, Dr. Cynthia Long Lasher of Waynesboro; a stepson, Adam Knupp of Quicksburg; a stepdaughter, Leigh Knupp Lemon of Spokane, Washington; a sister, Lisa Long of Front Royal; and two granddaughters. At AMA: 1st sergeant, C Company; Honor Roll; Roller Rifles. Reported by **Tommy Simmons, '53**.



Benny Long,
1955 Recall

Lee Rice Steeley, '57

20 July 2004, in Martinsburg, WV, of cancer, 64. Johns Hopkins University graduate with a B.S. in mechanical engineering. First job was with Dixie-Narco, manufacturer of cold drink vending machines. Helped establish vending operation in Japan and was vice president of manufacturing until 1981. In 1982, started his own business, DALB, Inc. in Kearneysville which screen prints commercial



Lee Rice Steeley,
1957 Recall

graphics. Golfer and boater. Survived by his wife, Jennifer Beth Steeley; his father, Roy S. Steeley; four children, Kevin Lee and Brian Lee Steeley and Colleen Lee Happy, all of Charles Town, WV, and Carolina Elazar of Queenstown, MD; a sister, Dolores, of Charles Town; and seven grandchildren. At AMA: baseball, football, lacrosse, Honor Roll, Honor Committee, Roller Rifles, Decorating Committee. Scored 100 in **Colonel McCue's** trig class. Winner, Modern Language Tournament. Master Sergeant. Reported by **Jim Simmons, '58**.

Pedro C. Moros, '58

30 May 2004, in Venezuela, age 63. No details. His daughter reported that her father always wanted to come back to AMA, but was never able to do so. At AMA: Roller Rifles, Cotillion Club.

Sergeant John Robert Wallace

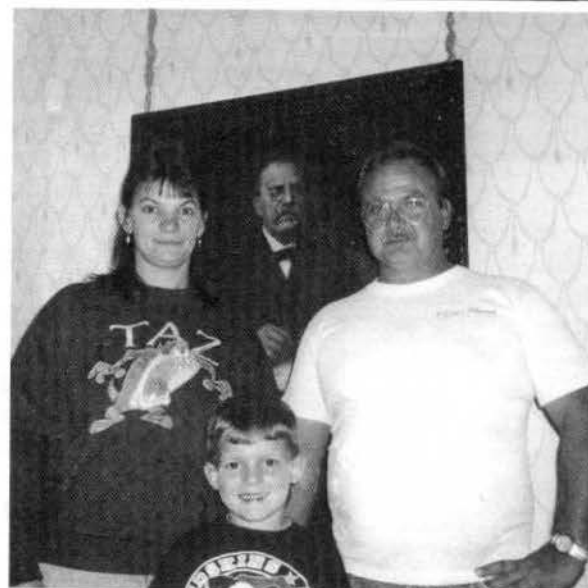
24 May 2004, at the Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Harrisonburg, age 83. Served on the AMA PMS&T staff in the 1950's. Retired from the U. S. Army in 1961. Served with the 36th FABN, received Army Medal of Commendation. Member, Virginia Sons of the American Revolution. Survived by his wife, Laura, and a son, John Paul, both of Weyers Cave; and two grandsons, Michael and Steven. Interment was at Arlington National Cemetery.



**Master
Sergeant John
Wallace,
1955 Recall**



Above, Jim Hatcher, '50, who donated a \$100 card rack to the AMA Museum. Thanks, Jim! Above, right, Michael Coeyman, '70, and his wife from Newbern, NC; right, Maggie and Mike Houck, '79, and son Brian from Stanley, VA; below, right, Ed Stamm, '66, and his bride in the museum.



**Mark your 2005 calendar
for Reunion 2005!**

*The last three days of April
28 - 29 - 30*



**You want to be there to
see friends, old and new**

REUNION 2005

Dr. Don Elston, '44

Flag flew over Normandy Cemetery on D-Day anniversary, over U.S. Capitol

Shirley and Don Elston, '44, have donated to the AMA Museum an American flag which flew over the American Military Cemetery at Normandy on the 60th anniversary of D-Day, a flag which previously had flown over the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, DC.

Senator John McCain of Arizona had arranged for the flag to be raised over the Capitol in 2003. The Elston's plan was to carry the flag to France on the AMA tour of World War II battlefields scheduled for last Fall. When that trip was cancelled, Don and Shirley signed up for a tour which included the 60th anniversary celebration of D-Day on the French beaches at Normandy and were able to arrange for their flag to be flown over the cemetery at Normandy on 6 June 2004. Don said the flag is a tribute "to Augusta Military Academy's World War II veterans and fallen soldiers."

AMA's graduation day in 1944 was 6 June which just happened to be D-Day. Don went into the army and arrived in Normandy in January of 1945. He saw the European part of World War II end when he was at the Remagen Bridge. Don and Shirley sat with a large group of World War II veterans, some of whom had landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day, during the 60th anniversary ceremonies. The flag is now on display at the AMA Museum together with certificates certifying that it had flown over the Capitol and the American Military Cemetery at Normandy.

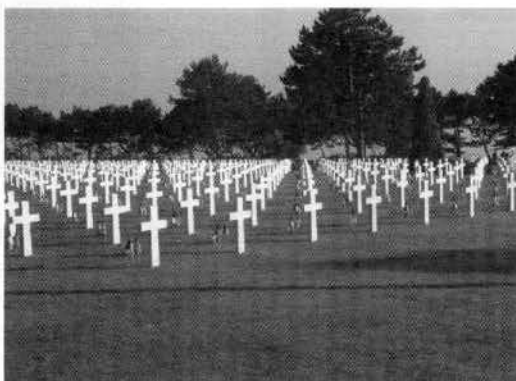


FLAG WEVERS - Don Elston, '44, and Shirley with the certificates showing that the American flag they have donated to the AMA Museum flew over the US Capitol and, on 6 June 2004, the 60th anniversary of D-Day, over the American Military Cemetery at Normandy.



ON THE BEACH - Shirley and Don Elston on Omaha Beach 6 June 2004.

Right, World War II veterans on Utah Beach; below, American and French flowers on every grave at the Normandy Cemetery on D-Day; below, right, some of the crowd at the commemoration ceremonies.



Sending us digital photos?

The Bayonet is receiving more and more digital pictures, some of which we can't use. If you are going to send digital photos to us, please read the requirements, below, set forth by Mid Valley Press, the company which prints *The Bayonet*. We welcome your digital pictures in good resolution and in the required format!

We often get digital pictures for use in Publications and sometimes have to reject photos our customers would like to use.

Some of our photographers don't understand why, and we are hoping this will help lay out what we need in order to have good, sharp photos.

Most people who use digital cameras want to get as many pictures as possible on their disc. Therefore, they shoot with the minimal resolution, or dots per inch (dpi), and most save their photos in a format call jpeg.

This combination virtually guarantees that the photo will not produce well.

In order to get pictures that are sharp, clear and will look good, the photos need to be taken at: **300 dpi, or higher**, and should be saved as **tif files**.

Most digital cameras will give you the option of saving your pictures in either the jpeg or tif format, and also will give you the option of increasing the resolution to 300 dpi (from the 72 dpi which may be the default setting for your digital camera).

Of course, taking pictures at 300 dpi will mean that you will get far fewer pictures on your disc.

A tif file of 300 dpi, or more, will generally look very good when printed.

If your camera will not permit you to shoot at 300 dpi, then take the picture in the highest resolution the camera will allow. Saving it as a tif file guarantees that all the dots which make up the photo are saved, and will be reproduced when your picture gets to us.

For more printing tips call Mid Valley Press...



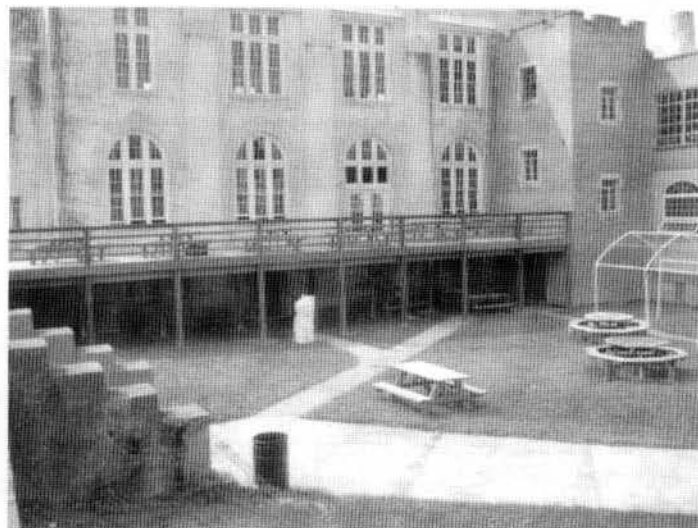
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46 Laurel Hill Rd • P.O. Box 998

Verona, Virginia 24482

mvpart@adelphia.net • mvpsales@adelphia.net



DINING OUT IN HOOVER HALL - The owners of the AMA campus are putting a cafeteria in Hoover Hall beneath the Big Room. A doorway has been cut to a new outside deck which will have tables and chairs for outside dining. The AMA buildings and grounds are owned by a consortium of Virginia Pentecostal Churches.



VERY SPECIAL FLAG - This is the flag that flew over the U.S. Capitol and later, on the 60th anniversary of D-Day, over the American Military Cemetery at Normandy in France. Dr. Don Elston, '44, donated the special flag to the AMA Museum in honor of World War II KIA's.

High hopes and broken hearts

Valiant and villainous plans undertaken to reopen AMA

It was 11 November 1983 – Armistice Day – and the Augusta Military Academy Corps of Cadets was drawn up to remember the sacrifices of AMA men who died in our nation's wars. United States Senator John Warner, who would one day chair the Senate Armed Services Committee, and Virginia Senator **John Chichester, '55**, stood with **Major Marcus Anderson** and **Cadet Major Joe Newman** as the Corps passed in review.

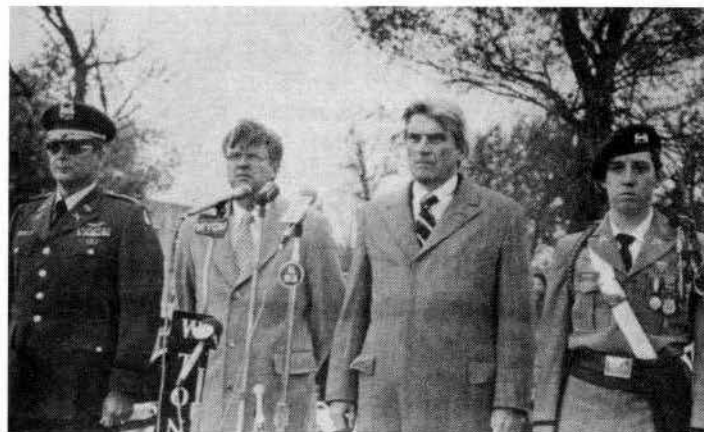
The newspaper reports said there were "some 80 cadets who took part in the parade."

Two months later, to the day, on 11 January 1984, school officials announced that AMA had ceased to be.

What happened to the school which at its apex had some 550 cadets in the Corps? During World War II, the student body hovered around 225, but in the postwar years, those numbers soared. Cadets attending AMA just after the war recall three and four cadets to a room. The racial integration of public schools brought another influx to private institutions in the middle 1950's. But the irresistible backlash against the prolonged war in Vietnam produced a concomitant nationwide bias against all things military, including military schools.

A descending cycle

A descending cycle thus began: smaller enrollments meant less money to keep up the physical plant and pay quality teachers which in turn hurt enrollment. There were serious talks about a merger with the Staunton Military Academy, AMA's keen rival, but SMA closed its doors for the last time in 1975, and SMA's owner recommended Fishburne as the only other military school his students should attend. To help with enrollment, Augusta admitted some boys who had behavioral problems, so called "state boys" who were given the choice between reform school and a military school. In an attempt to attract funding, AMA became a not-for-profit operation in 1977 with a Board of Trustees operating the school. Some of the trustees of the new non-profit signed notes and pledged personal property to back up their endorsements. In 1980, AMA's **Superintendent, Colonel Mal Livick**, who with his wife, **Linda Roller Livick**, owned the school, retired hoping that someone else at the top "might be able to create a miracle." The trustees



VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONIES - Colonel Marcus Anderson, State Senator John Chichester, '55, U. S. Senator John Warner and Cadet Major Joseph Newman, '84, as the AMA Corps of Cadets passed in review. It was 11 November 1983.

leased the land and the buildings from the Livicks; the Livicks gave the trustees all the equipment and supplies at the school.

The 1980 session opened with some 150 cadets, but there were just 110 when the 1982-83 school year began and just 81 by December of 1983. Trustees believed that an influx of new cadets after Christmas of 1983 would pump new blood into AMA's atrophied veins. But all of the efforts were of no avail and following the Christmas Holiday, with the electricity turned off because the bill had

not been paid and a burst boiler for which there was no repair money, cadets returned to Fort Defiance in January of 1984 to find the school closed and shuttered. **Elliott Hudson**, an AMA faculty member said, "I pity the students. We had a high rate of boys who had turned themselves around." **Scott Cole, '84**, from San Diego and **Joe Randall, '84**, from Atlanta were just heartsick. "This place put me through more than I ever imagined, and I loved it. Now, I'm stuck with only a dream," said Randall. Cole said he could not imagine transferring to another military school: "It would be like changing my



NEVER TO BE SENIORS - Scott Cole of San Diego and Joe Randall of Atlanta, AMA juniors when AMA suddenly closed in January of 1984.

nationality to Russian."

Throughout the late '70's and early '80's, there were numerous efforts to put the Augusta ship back on course. Just before the end, **Colonel William Sedr**, then AMA's Headmaster and now Fishburne's Headmaster, revealed plans to "*polish AMA's image*" and to see the school return to its "*traditional values*." Sedr was quoted as saying that 35 cadets had been expelled for failing to meet the new standards and AMA stopped taking state boys. But in 1983, Augusta's Corps of Cadets had dwindled to just above 100 and **Nancy Lawson**, the AMA Director of Admissions and Development, said that the school needed 130 to 150 cadets just to break even. In September of 1983, Major Anderson wrote to alumni asking for their help in recruiting new cadets.

Desperate efforts

In that cold January of 1984 after the school closed, efforts began immediately to raise enough money to keep AMA going. Major Anderson, who was AMA's last superintendent, and Lawson said that the school could stay open until mid-January if \$35,000 could be found immediately. The power company agreed to work with those who were trying to raise the money, but the funds just could not be found. The AMA Trustees met more than once to see if there might be some solution that would let the school reopen. On 11 January, the trustees ordered the official shutdown of the Augusta Military Academy.

One hundred nineteen years after **Professor Charles S. Roller** had begun to teach Confederate veterans in the grove next to the Old Stone Church, Augusta Military Academy was gone forever. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* said that AMA was "*born of one lost war and in some ways the victim of another*." Said **Chuck Savedge**, "*I saw so many people working so hard to keep a dream alive... There just wasn't enough money, pure and simple.*"

In 1974, there were more than 300 private military academies in the United States. With AMA's closure ten years later, there were just 49 left. Now, there are 28, in addition to four military junior colleges/schools and eight military institutes/colleges. Many of the military academies are co-ed and/or church supported.

The Dance of the Phoenix

Then began the Dance of the Phoenix, the sometimes valiant and sometimes villainous attempts to bring Augusta back from the ashes. Starting as soon as AMA closed in 1984, committed AMA alumni, land speculators, church organizations, a retired Marine colonel, and even an Egyptian "prince" all played their roles, some heroic and some evil, with the future of Augusta Military Academy at stake. Genuine and bogus efforts to reopen AMA went on for nearly 14 years before a consortium of Virginia

Pentecostal Churches bought the buildings and grounds in 1998.

In January of 1984, the United Virginia Bank held a \$433,000 mortgage on the property; the bank did not mention foreclosure at once but did talk of a possible public auction. The AMA Alumni Association decided to try to buy the school and the bank gave the association 60 days to raise the money or the school would be auctioned off. Meeting in a restaurant outside of Staunton, there was widespread if naive enthusiasm that the money could be raised in the time period the bank had allotted. Alumni Association President **Gordon Metz**, '68, said, "*It's going to be a long, hard road, but we have to try to make it.*" At this meeting, the decision was made to retrieve and store the school's records until there was a final decision.

Metz, Lawson (now secretary to the alumni association) and **Phil Bradley**, '50, realizing that much more was needed above the \$433,000 mortgage to purchase and refurbish the school, set a goal of \$2.5 million. The AMA buildings and grounds, still owned by Colonel and Mrs. Livick, had been put on the market for \$650,000 when the school closed and area realtors reported keen interest in the property by a number of prospective buyers.

Colonel Savedge, AMA's Headmaster who had taught at Augusta for 37 years, replaced Lawson as the secretary to the alumni board. In February, the late **Mickey Gordon**, '39, reported that half a million dollars

had been pledged or raised. The alumni association had a sort of "town meeting" at an Augusta County junior high school to get support from the community.

Judge authorizes foreclosure

The 60 allotted days having passed without an offer from the alumni association, a Federal judge authorized the United Virginia Bank to foreclose while fund-raising efforts continued. In early April, the bank announced that the school would be auctioned off on 5 May, with ironic coincidence on the same weekend as the annual alumni reunion. Phil Bradley said, "*We still hope that the alumni will be able to buy the school before May 5.*"

But that was not to be. On 5 May, a group of Northern Virginia investors had the high bid of \$420,000 for the buildings and grounds while the furnishings – the library books, lacrosse and fencing equipment, trophies, flags, portraits, yearbooks, projectors, cannon and .03 rifles – were sold separately at an auction in the Big Room. Bidders sat at the old fashioned AMA school desks (which eventually were sold for five dollars each), desks inscribed with the carvings and doodles of generations of cadets. On the wall was a quote from the school's founder: "Everything a man possesses may be swept away by the tides of fortune, but never will anything destroy a man of character,



Phil Bentley, '83, left, said he had watched John Wayne in *The Green Beret* and came to AMA because that is what he wanted. **David Wimmer**, '84, came to Augusta because he was not doing well in public school. Both were there as AMA tried to "polish its image."



GOING, GOING, Gone - The Big Room was the sad scene when AMA's rifles, desks, and even portraits were auctioned off - 5 May 1984...

a gentleman with a well trained mind."

Bradley had to report that he had only \$7,000 in cash and another \$25,000 in pledges.

That afternoon, a solemn group of AMA alumni and friends gathered at the Roller obelisk in the Old Stone Church Cemetery for a Founder's Day commemoration. "Doc" Savedge spoke: *"A tradition is no longer. The ideal of one man 119 years ago is no more... Professor Roller, Colonel Tom Roller and General Charles Roller, Jr. left their imprint on every boy who attended AMA... We loved the stucco - we loved the stone - we loved the blood, the bones and the muscle that was Augusta... It was cold stone but with a warm heart."* **Hilton Roller Grasty**, Colonel Tom's daughter, laid a wreath at the grave marker while a bugler from Fishburne Military School played Taps, a fitting musical recognition of what had just transpired in the Big Room. There were few dry eyes. Said Gordon Metz, *"It is a sad day, but I hope not our last day."* Linda Roller Livick said later, *"Until we lost our son, Taylor, this was the blackest day in my life."*

Three days later on 8 May marked the 145th birthday of AMA's Founder, Charles S. Roller, Sr.

The late **Ronnie Mahanes**, '53, the new President of the AMA Alumni Association, said, *"The desperate alumni efforts to save AMA were too little, too late"*, and talked of a new blueprint to reopen the school. In August of '84, the new owners promised to respond within 30 days to a proposal for alumni to either buy or lease the school. In the meantime, the owners added 32 adjacent acres to their holdings and talked about uses for the



RONNIE MAHANES at a meeting in early 1984.



...while on the same day at the Old Stone Church Cemetery, Doc Savedge led a solemn group of AMA alumni and friends in the annual Founder's Day ceremonies just three days before what would have been Professor Roller's 145th birthday.

property other than a school.

A current newspaper headline blared, "Optimism surges over AMA reopening," and went on to talk about a possible telethon to raise money, a performance by Bob Hope, and a Blue Angels flyover. One of the investors expressed confidence about having a military school on the property, and alumni were elated. Albert Hiner was hired to do a feasibility study and he reported that at least \$2 million would be needed to get a school up and running, a school that would require at least 90 cadets to break even. Mahanes said that the school might reopen in the Fall of 1986 rather than the fall of 1985. But the owners of the school had just raised its purchase price to \$950,000.

In December, the Virginia Department of Corrections looked at using the AMA campus as a staff training center, but that effort came to naught.

1985 began with word that the World Health Center (WHC) was making plans to locate on the AMA grounds and the Augusta County Board of Zoning Appeals already
(continued on page 43)



JUST DUCKY - Ted Shonts, '49, walks six miles a day five times a week in his southeast Charlotte neighborhood.

AMA grad avoids doctors and checkups, but you can't fault him

Ted Shonts, '49, was in Headquarters Company and played JV baseball when he was at AMA. Already he had embarked on a lifetime of a good health regimen which lets him say, at age 73, that he has almost never been to a doctor. Well, there was that time when he fell off his bike and had to have his dislocated shoulder popped back into place, and he had his blood pressure checked when he retired from the Postal Service in Charlotte, NC in 1987. "It was OK," he says.

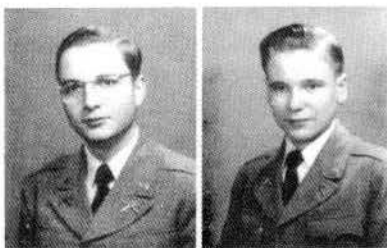
Recently, Ted and his brother John Shonts, '49, who lives in Clive, Iowa, visited the AMA Museum. Ted was attached to the Navy Chaplain's Corps during the Korean War while John won a Distinguished Flying Cross in the Vietnam War. Ted says he doesn't

count as a doctor visit the physical he took when he was inducted into the Navy. "I was there with a hundred other guys and they had us drop our pants, then bend over and spread our

cheeks, and a doctor walked past and looked at us," he says. The Shonts boys came to AMA from Dover, Ohio and each was at Augusta for just a single year. At one time, their family lived in Staunton. As a matter of fact, that is

where the boys were born. "I guess I'd have to count my birth as a doctor visit," Ted says. "I tried to come out feet first

back in 1931." He also had his tonsils out when he was three, but when he was inducted into the Navy they found that part of his tonsils still remained intact.



Ted Shonts, left, and John, from the 1949 Recall.

He says that if he were ever to become really sick, he would see a doctor, "but I never catch a cold and I never have an upset stomach. If I have a headache, I take an aspirin."

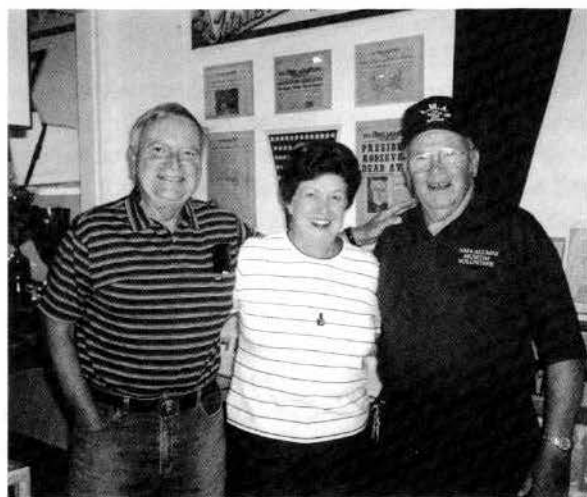
One of the reasons Ted's health is so good now is that he used to walk ten miles a day six days a week on his Charlotte mail route toting a heavy mailbag. When he retired, he took up cycling until the accident that dislocated his shoulder when he switched to race-walking.

Loves to eat

His diet? "I love to eat and have a couple of beers each night, and a single-malt Scotch once a week... but I don't diet. I just eat sensibly... and I take the vitamins my wife's doctor tells her to take."

Both Ted and his wife, Kathy, took four year courses to prepare them to counsel through an international, non-denominational organization called the Steven Ministry. Ted is also a part of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee dispute settlement program and in 2002 he was named "Mediator of the Year."

"All this side stuff contributes to my health," he says, "I am convinced that if I hadn't gotten into a disciplined exercise program, I wouldn't be healthy..." And what about his happy marriage to Kathy? "Well," he says, "that was just my good luck."



MUSEUM VISIT - Ted Shonts, '49, his wife, Kathy, and AMA Museum Volunteer Frank Spencer, '49, sharing old times at the AMA Museum.

AMALUMNI.ORG

By B. J. D'orsay, '70

The newest feature of the AMA website is the virtual tour of our wonderful AMA Museum. It was unveiled 1 July this year. The tour currently has 38 exhibit photos and their accompanying text with more coming. The tour has received many favorable comments from many visitors.

Because of the manner in which the museum tour of the website was programmed, future updates will be quick and easy. As the brick and mortar museum in Fort Defiance changes exhibits, the virtual tour will change as well as I receive photos and captions from the museum staff.

The tour page itself is still in its infancy. Even though it is fully functional right now, version 2 already is being programmed to add even more enjoyment to your tour.

In other website news, a new section is in the final stages of preparation. The Roller Riders have been featured several times in *The Bayonet* and will now have their own section on the AMA website.

Spearheaded by **Bill Scarborough, '69**, and put on the website by me, **B. J. d'Orsay, '70**, the new section will highlight the trips made by the Roller Riders in the past with lots of color photos. And it will be a good place to look for upcoming events. These future projects, as yet unscheduled, include a comprehensive photo history of the school from the beginning just after the Civil War up to the present day.

I want to get more *Recalls* scanned and online, but the amount of effort required to scan a complete *Recall* and compose the web pages is just more than I have time for right now.

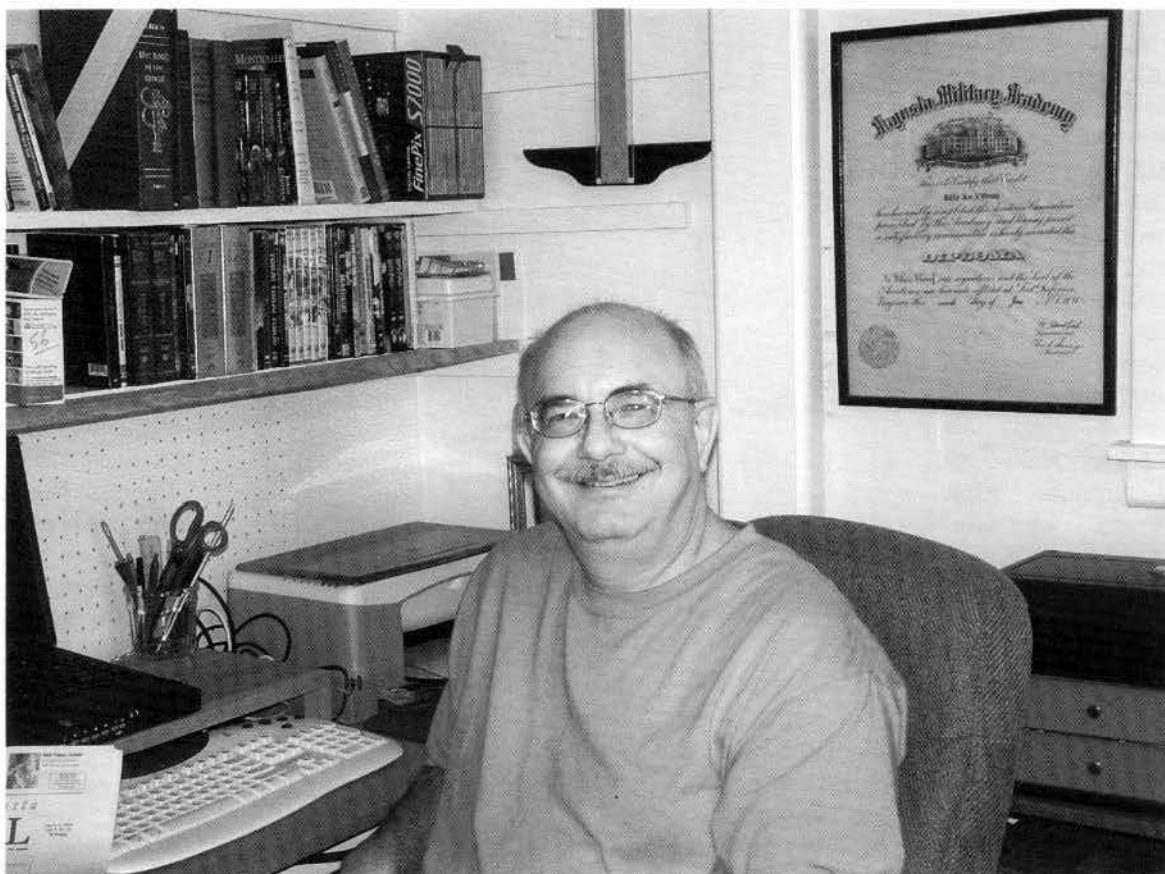
THIS IS THE ONE AREA WHERE I WOULD WELCOME HELP! If you have a PC, a scanner, and the ability to store your scanned images on a CD, you have all the equipment you need to be helpful. Even if you cannot scan an entire *Recall*, you can still help. If you can scan any portion of your *Recall*, please do so, and send me the scans, and I

will do the rest. Just scan the highlights of *The Recall* and we'll fill in the other areas sometime in the future.

Scans should be made at a resolution of 200 DPI

or more (the more, the better) and they should be saved in .TIFF format. Your scanner software should have settings that will give you these options. If you are interested, you can send me a page or two, and I'll evaluate them for usability. I'll advise you of any changes you may need to make in your scans.

If we all work together, we can eventually get the entire



**B. J. d'Orsay, '70, at home in Lubbock, Texas
waiting to hear from YOU!**

recorded history of AMA on the web. What a great legacy that would be! And you can have a part in making that legacy a reality.

Next time you wonder, "*Why isn't my Recall on the AMA website?*," ask yourself, "*Why haven't I helped put my Recall on the website?*"

You can contact me via e-mail at:
Webmaster@AMALumni.org

or mail your CD to:
**B.J. d'Orsay, 4206 38th Street,
Lubbock, TX 79413**

1947 and 1948 teams

AMA won first two Orchid Bowl Championships

Augusta's football teams made two consecutive trips to Chattanooga in the late 1940's to play for the National Prep School Championship, coming away with wins on both occasions, beating undermanned Excelsior Springs (Missouri) 55-6 in December of 1948 after getting by McCallie School 27-13 the year before. The games inaugurated the Orchid Bowl.

In the Excelsior game, the crowd hadn't even gotten seated when a speedy little halfback took the AMA kickoff and returned it 91 yards for a touchdown. Except for one short spurt in the third period, that was the only time Excelsior crossed the 50 yard stripe. On the second play after Excelsior kicked off to Augusta, **Alex Kozma, '49**, who the 1948 *Bayonet* called "150 pounds of football dynamite," exploded for 48 yards and the first of eight AMA touchdowns. Kozma pretty much ran at will, scoring twice more though one was called back by a penalty.

Captain **Don Johns, '49**, scored on a 34 yard run and **Bill Deuber, '49**, scored on a pass from Quarterback **Charley Murray, '49**. **Jimmy Hagan, '49**, scored twice, once on a six-yard end around, **Piney Field, '49**, took a ten-yard aerial from Johns for a TD, and **Eddie Allen, '49**, got the game's final touchdown with a 30 yard return of a partially blocked punt.

All in all, the Blue and White had four touchdowns cancelled by penalties keeping the lopsided score from being even more so. The light but speedy Excelsior team was outweighed and outclassed by Augusta which in those days had many players who came for just one year after high school before going on to play college ball. Coach George "Buck" Chapman thus put together some very

strong teams during his tenure. Leading up to the Orchid Bowl trip in 1948, AMA had blanked Fishburne 32-0, swamped Massanutten 39-0, and edged the very tough West Virginia Frosh 20-19. (See the 5 December 1948 *Bayonet* at left, below)

Some controversy

While alumni, cadets and most faculty members loved the winning seasons, there was also concern expressed about some of the players who had come to Augusta for just a year and exerted a minimum effort at being a part of the Cadet Corps. Many of the fellows who came for just the one year *did* acquit themselves admirably, but there was always a pressure to excuse players from some formations and to expect those who were Cadet Waiters to get a break on the times to report for duty.

Having said that, the fact is that there was a great school spirit which accompanied the winning seasons.

Players like **Clyde Ramsey**, **Louis Philhower** and **Johns** had prominent positions in the Corps with Philhower being Captain of Headquarters Company. In the year following the 1947 and 1948 bowl appearances, Chapman's team went 8-1-1 in '49. In 1950, **Jerry Claiborne** took over and had a 3-6 record followed by a 9-1 season in 1951.

Augusta Crushes Excelsior In Orchid Bowl

Prep Frosh Two Much For Small Ma. Valley Champs

Augusta's football team, which has been undefeated since its first game, crushed the Excelsior team of the Ma. Valley Conference today in the Orchid Bowl. The game was played at the University of Georgia stadium in Athens, Ga. The Augusta team won 55-6. The Excelsior team was led by Coach [Name]. The Augusta team was led by Coach [Name]. The game was a decisive victory for Augusta.

Massanutten Bows To AMA

Augusta's football team, which has been undefeated since its first game, crushed the Massanutten team today in the Orchid Bowl. The game was played at the University of Georgia stadium in Athens, Ga. The Augusta team won 39-0. The Massanutten team was led by Coach [Name]. The Augusta team was led by Coach [Name]. The game was a decisive victory for Augusta.

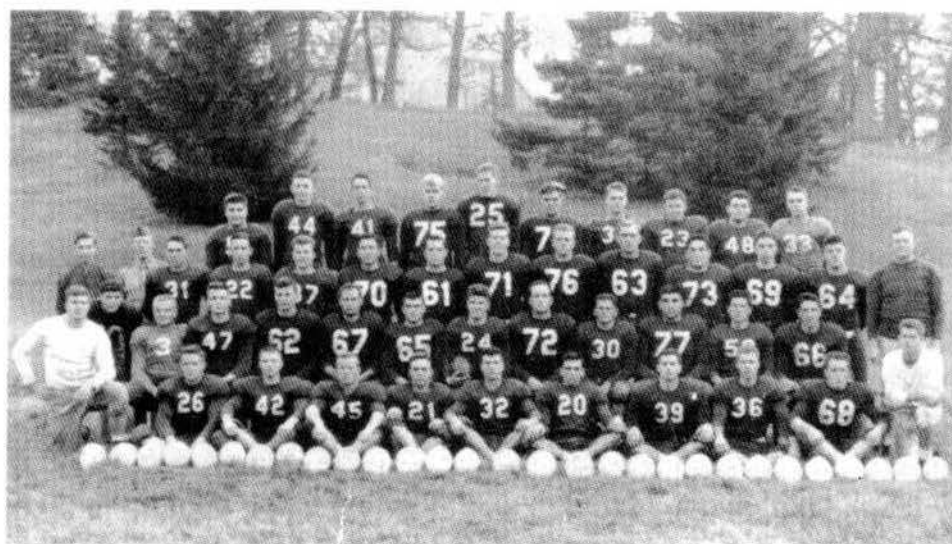
AMA Edges W.Va. Frosh

Augusta's football team, which has been undefeated since its first game, edged the West Virginia Frosh team today in the Orchid Bowl. The game was played at the University of Georgia stadium in Athens, Ga. The Augusta team won 20-19. The West Virginia Frosh team was led by Coach [Name]. The Augusta team was led by Coach [Name]. The game was a close contest.

FMS Loses Annual Tilt

Augusta's football team, which has been undefeated since its first game, lost the FMS Annual Tilt today. The game was played at the University of Georgia stadium in Athens, Ga. The FMS team won. The Augusta team was led by Coach [Name]. The FMS team was led by Coach [Name]. The game was a close contest.

Virginia State Prep School Champions 1948



AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY'S 1948 FOOTBALL TEAM

Bridges named for him

Dr. Meb Turner, '49, has retired as the President of the University of Baltimore

Dr. H. Mebane "Meb" Turner, '49, retired in 2002 as President of the University of Baltimore, an upper-division and graduate university located in the cultural district of Baltimore, the economic and cultural center of Maryland. UB offers classes at off-site campuses (College of Southern Maryland, Arundel Mills and the George Meany Center. To learn more, sign on to: www.ubalt.edu)

When Meb retired two years ago, the UB Alumni Magazine printed the following tribute: A remarkable legacy. We reprint it with the permission of the UB Alumni Office.

As a young man, **H. Mebane Turner** explored several different career paths. When he entered the University of Virginia, he thought he might one day be a lawyer. After graduation, the football and wrestling star pictured himself as a prep school coach and teacher, a goal that sent him to the seminary in New York City and on to a master's degree in education. Thinking it was time to settle down and earn a living, he took a job as a stockbroker in Baltimore.

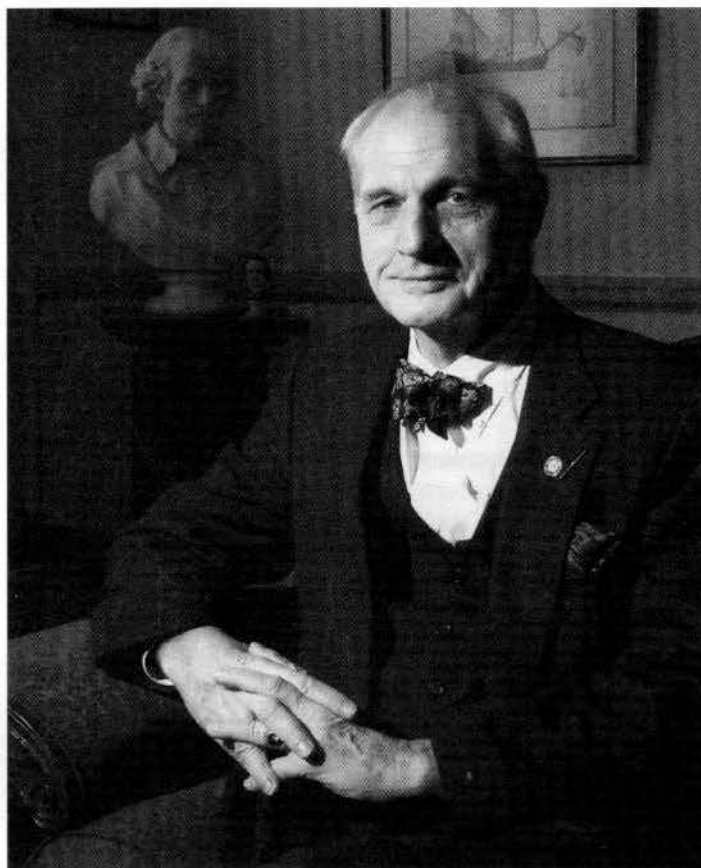
Ultimately, Meb Turner was to become a builder.

In 33 years, 32 of them as president, he built the University of Baltimore from a few buildings to a modern urban campus, the anchor of a revitalized midtown district. He set high expectations and invested wisely, especially in the people around him. He steered the University through periods of turmoil and growth, knowing which sacrifices had to be made and which were intolerable.

When he retires this July, he leaves behind a remarkable legacy, not just in brick and mortar, in national accreditation or expanded degree programs. He has imprinted on an institution the values of integrity, loyalty, fairness and determination — lasting gifts indeed!

In the final months of his presidency, preparing to turn over the reins to his successor, Dr. Turner was busy receiving accolades. First, Baltimore's City Council adopted a bill naming the new Charles Street bridges for him. Then,

he received a citation for his contributions to Maryland higher education on the floor of the House and Senate. He



Dr. H. Mebane "Meb" Turner

endured these and other honors and tributes with characteristic modesty, steadfastly sharing credit with his predecessors, supporters and colleagues.

At January commencement, he told Mayor Martin O'Malley that he was pleased to have a bridge named for him, but with an amused twinkle in his blue eyes, added, "I hope they build it to last a good long while."

Dr. Turner's appreciation for value and penchant things simple, plainspoken and honest, stem from rural Southern roots. He grew up in Richmond, the only son of Edgar Halcott Turner, a tobacco company executive and his wife, Betty Tarpley Turner, aware of a distinguished family history dating back to the settlers at Jamestown. Says his wife, Iva, "Meb comes from a tough breed of survivors. His roots in America are deep and he's very proud of what his family accomplished."

Edgar Turner left school after the eighth grade, but rose to the top ranks of his company. His example ingrained in

Meb Turner says: "I remember my cadet days at AMA with fondness. I confess to more interest in athletics than the military aspects of our experience, but that also served me well when I was in the Army... My wife and I stopped to see the AMA Museum one day and **Paul Bratton, '48**, was on duty. It brought back a lot of good memories... I had a good run at UB and good luck during my presidency, primarily due to the able support of many capable associates. AMA trained me well academically and athletically for UVA and afterwards for which I've always been grateful."

his son an appreciation for what an individual can accomplish with determination and ambition, Iva Turner notes, an appreciation that would ultimately draw him to UB. *"He is very admiring of people who persevere, who use their abilities to the fullest,"* says Iva. *"Meb has an incredible work ethic, he's tenacious and he won't take no for an answer. These have always been the kind of people who attended UB and have gone on to accomplish so much."*

That perseverance emerged at a young age – he was only 14 when he issued an ultimatum to his father, he recalls. *"My father and I got along very well. Now my mother – she didn't work. I was her only project, and so she was a bit of a nag. I told my father, 'Send me to military school or I'm leaving.'"* Years later, he asked his father why he yielded to his demand *"instead of knocking me down, which I would have deserved. He said, 'Well, I was afraid you might leave.'"*

The young man enrolled at **Augusta Military Academy** where he wrestled, played football and excelled academically. It was his father's dream that he go to UVA, but the transition from military academy to a university without curfews and ringed by women's colleges was not an easy one for this gregarious young man. His scrapbooks bulge with photos from dances and parties along with news clippings on his athletic accomplishments. *"I played football and wrestled; there wasn't a movie I didn't want to see or a girl's school I didn't want to visit."* A religion major, he would end up on academic probation, buckle down to make the Dean's List, then find himself on probation again. *"I went up to see the coach one day, and he asked me, 'Turner, how can anybody flunk speech?' I replied, 'Well, Coach, you've got to attend class.' After that, I shaped up."*

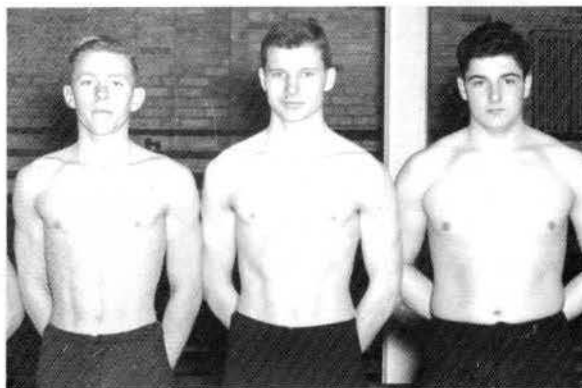
Important leadership lessons

He did always excel on the playing field. From sports, he gathered important lessons about leadership, such as sacrificing personal goals for the good of a team. *"My coaches taught me that if you respect people, they will respect you,"* he said. Those early mentors set him on the path to become a prep school coach and teacher. From UVA, he headed to Union Theological Seminary for a divinity degree, spent two years in the Army as a chaplain, then went back to New York for a master's degree from Columbia Teacher's College.

But by the age of 30, teaching prep school no longer seemed promising. *"You couldn't make any money at it,"* he says. A Virginia contact helped him land a job with Merrill Lynch. After completing a competitive training program in New York, he moved to Baltimore and worked for three years as a broker. Although he loved Baltimore, he was drawn back to UVA by the opportunity to be assistant

director of financial aid and varsity wrestling coach.

UVA then tapped him to become Dean of Students at what was then George Mason College in Fairfax, Virginia.



MATMEN - From 1947, three stars of the AMA wrestling team: Dr. Tom Callahan, '47; Dr. Meb Turner; and John Larus, '48. Turner also starred on the Augusta football team, twice playing in the Orchid Bowl for the National Prep School Championship. See story on page 34.

he was a great man," Dr. Turner says. *"He told me two important things: 'First, get yourself on holy ground. Then, fight like hell!'"* Within a year, Dr. Pullen, a former

superintendent of schools, was ready to retire. He made it clear to all that Meb Turner was the right choice to succeed him. As he did in Virginia, Dr. Turner was about to face momentous change and growth and this time, he would be at the helm.

A public mission

For the first 45 years of UB's history, academic prestige was not as important to the University as the mission on which it was founded: helping adults who would not otherwise go to college gain the degrees that allowed them to take a step forward into professional careers. Geared to first-generation college students, positioned as "the university of opportunity," UB turned out

leaders in business, law and community life.

"Nobody else was doing what we were doing," he says. *"We were private, but with a real public mission."* But by 1968, the climate had changed: To keep up with the higher education market, UB needed a new direction. It needed Ph.D.-prepared faculty and accreditation. Dr. Pullen had the vision; Dr. Turner – assisted by his key administrators –

(continued on page 72)

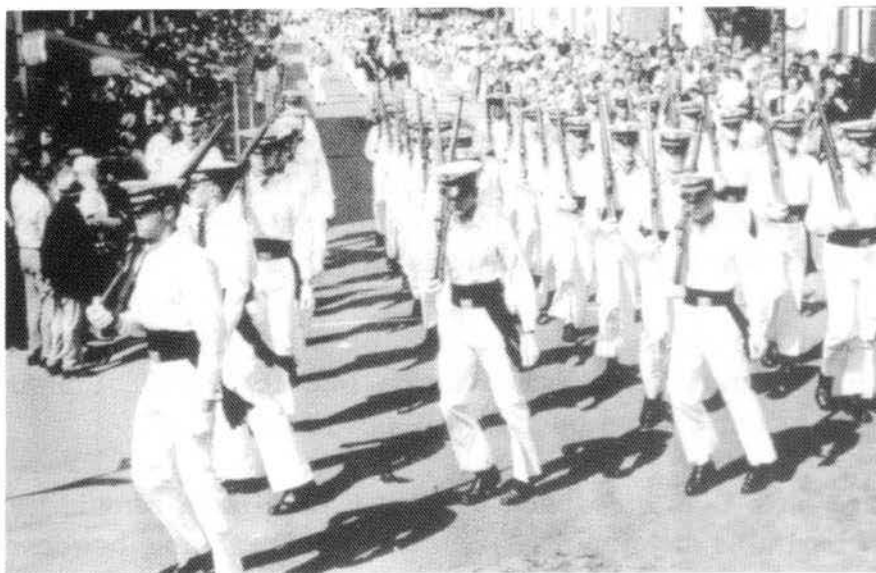


Meb's class photo, 1949

Reborn Roller Rifles?

Will our famous drill team march at the reunion?

Would you like to see the Roller Rifles march again at Reunion 2005? More than that, how would you like to be a part of the Roller Rifles rebirth?



Tom DelValle, '72, is gauging interest in having the Roller Rifles reactivated in time to perform at next year's reunion. Is this doable? "That is the BIG question," says Tom. "It would be great to have our famous drill team back in business, but can we do it in time for next year's reunion?"

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING AT REUNION 2005,

TOM NEEDS TO HEAR FROM YOU RIGHT AWAY!

Some things you need to consider:

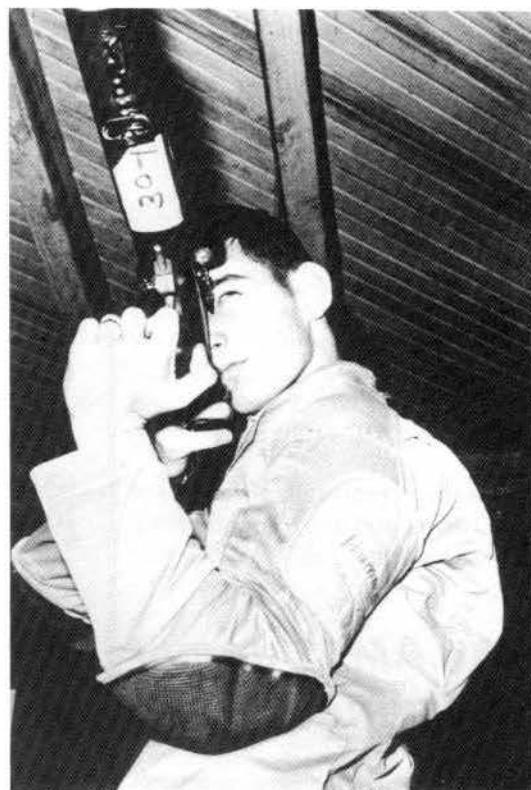
+ Tom would like to get the group together on the Friday afternoon of the reunion (29 April) to drill. "We are all rusty and will certainly need to practice before we take the field on Saturday to show our stuff."

The drill would take place at AMA around 1 PM on Friday with the demonstration the next afternoon.

+ Former Roller Rifles members are encouraged to sign up, but you need not have been a member of the Roller Rifles when you were at AMA to participate.

+ Tom would like to put together a three or four squad platoon. "We'll have to wait and see what kind of response we get to see what the unit will look like," he says.

+ For the drill team to look good, a uniform is required. "This is where the rubber meets the road," says Tom. The



TAKING AIM - Tom DelValle, '72, star of the AMA Rifle Team, is shooting to have the Roller Rifles march again.

plan is to have the drill team in fatigues, combat boots, web belts, white gloves, berets and shoulder cords. "We have a source for the fatigues and I would estimate that it will take a \$100 commitment, more or less, from each participant to cover everything."

+ The plan is for the reborn Roller Riflers to shoulder .03s which will have to be borrowed for the occasion.

SO, ARE YOU INTERESTED?

If this is to happen, decisions must be made quickly. Tom will need to hear from those who are interested as soon as possible. If you plan to participate, he will need to get from you sizes for the fatigues and the combat boots.

Another need is for **DRUMMERS** - at least one snare and one bass drum, and the "Charlie Hillsman cadence." Can you drum for the **NEW ROLLER RIFLES**?

He needs to hear from you **NOW** - **RIGHT NOW** - so that plans can move ahead. Will you be there Friday 29 April to drill? Will you be there Saturday 30 April to put on a demonstration? Will you commit \$100, plus or minus, to be in uniform?

Tom needs to know right away. And send him your sizes!

CONTACT HIM AT:

TomRDelValle@comcast.net

The AMA Alumni Association

The Augusta Military Academy Alumni **Association** plans and executes the annual reunions, operates the PX, sponsors the annual alumni picnic and supports other "for profit" ventures.

Reunion registration fees, PX purchases and the like are **NOT** tax deductible.

The AMA Alumni Foundation

The Augusta Military Academy Alumni **Foundation** supports the AMA Legacy Scholarship Fund, the VMI Scholarship Fund, the AMA Museum, the maintenance of the alumni mailing list, and publishes and distributes *The Bayonet*.

Gifts to the AMA Foundation **ARE** tax deductible.

That is the reason that the AMA Foundation was created: to provide an opportunity for friends of Augusta to support our activities and be entitled to a deduction on federal and state* income taxes.

When the alumni association earns money on one of its projects, it may, if its officers and board so decide, transfer some or all of those funds to the foundation.

However, once money is in a foundation account, it can be used only for those purposes which would entitle a donor to a tax deduction (scholarships, the museum, *The Bayonet*).

The foundation can **NOT** transfer money to the association.

* Check with your financial advisor to determine your state's tax rules

PLAN AHEAD

You probably have seen the words above with the obvious implication that the writer did not adequately plan ahead. He ran out of space before he ran out of words.

Life is a little like that too except that you run out of **TIME** instead of words. And when you run out of time, no mortal on earth can replenish it. So the time to determine what you want to have done when you pass away is **NOW**.

As you can see on the previous two pages, making a sizable donation to a non-profit organization like the AMA Alumni Foundation needn't leave your loved ones high and dry.

There are gifts that give back to you: a charitable remainder trust, a charitable gift annuity. Then there is the simple bequest - telling your loved ones with your will that you want something to go to AMA.

Whatever you decide, won't you join the Friends of AMA listed on the facing page? Complete the blank below (you can use a photocopy if you wish) and return it to us so your name can go on the Roller Society plaque in the AMA Museum.

You'll be in very good company.

I want to become a member of *The Roller Society*
I am making arrangements for a deferred gift which
will benefit the AMA Alumni Foundation when I pass on

(Print name)

(Your signature)

(Class, if applicable)

(Date)

Return this form, or a copy of it, to:
AMA Alumni Foundation, PO Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437

The Roller Society

The Roller Society honors those who have pledged to leave something to the AMA Alumni Foundation when they pass away. It is on the shoulders of these dedicated heroes that AMA's future will be built. Funding the AMA and VMI Scholarships. Maintaining and improving our jewel: the AMA Museum. Supporting the printing and mailing of The Bayonet.

The Roller Society logo, left, infers that your gift will keep on giving, echoing over the years, enabling us to repeatedly fund the programs that define who we are, assuring that your name will be remembered long after you are gone.

Members of the Roller Society as of 15 October 2004

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Joseph Salicrup, `31 *   | 22) Nick Syropoulos, `69 | 43) Charles Pascale, `69 |
| 2) Mickey Gordon, `39 *     | 23) Jeanne M. Ramsey       | 44) Rod Willey, `51 |
| 3) Goodloe Saunders, `57    | 24) Rob Overly, `62 | 45) Bob Harris, `54 |
| 4) Bob Bradford, `50        | 25) Steve Matton, `67 | 46) Ed Chauncey, `49 |
| 5) Nancy Bradford | 26) Ed Click, `50          | 47) John Henderson, `69 |
| 6) Duke Fancher, `58        | 27) Frank Spencer, `49 | 48) Ray Sanchez, `63 |
| 7) Robert Spilman, `45      | 28) Terry Snow, `58 | 49) Colonel Mal Livick |
| 8) Dr. Edward Leventen, `46 | 29) Frank Williamson, `60 | 50) Linda Roller Livick |
| 9) Gary Nicholson, `70      | 30) P. J. Thomson, `72 | 51) Jim Starnes, `50 |
| 10) Elliott Ridge, `59      | 31) Lewie Kennett, `72 | 52) George Holt, `60 |
| 11) Bobby Rhea, `47         | 32) Andrew Campbell, `61 | 53) Luke Snyder, `60 |
| 12) Hal Walters, `48        | 33) Tex Mahone, `42 | 54) Herb McCawley, `43 * |
| 13) Clyde Ramsey, `49       | 34) Paul Bratton, `48 | 55) Ben Zinkhan, `60 |
| 14) Frank Shultz, `41       | 35) Willis Walker, `71 | 56) Richard Young, `50 |
| 15) Mac McInnis, `67 | 36) Ida Spencer | 57) Hilton Roller Grasty |
| 16) Dave Conrad, `59        | 37) Tommy Clements, `50 | 58) Al Zayas, `72 |
| 17) Noelle Nicholson | 38) Garry Granger, `71     | 59) Gordon Metz, `68 |
| 18) Dr. John Morris, `49 *  | 39) Carroll Knicely, `46 | 60) Greg Pearce, `65 |
| 19) Jim Councill, `49       | 40) Jeff Schroeder, `67 | 61) Donald Studer |
| 20) Bill Harris, `48        | 41) Steve Trent, `70 | 62) Mac Coiner, `62 |
| 21) Bill McVey, `60         | 42) Dr. H. D. Deane, `48 * | 63) YOUR NAME |

* Deceased

THE AMA GIFT-GIVING MATRIX

TYPE

HOW

Current Gift

A donation you make now can be used promptly to meet our urgent needs. You can see beneficial results from your immediate gift without delay...and you maximize your tax savings.



Cash
Securities or real estate
Tangible personal property held long term
Charitable lead trust

- Write a check or charge a credit card.
- Give appreciated assets you've held longer than a year.
- Donate property you've held longer than one year that is related to our exempt function.
- Fund a trust that provides payments to us for a term of years, then pays the remainder to family members or beneficiaries of your choice.

Deferred Gift

A deferred gift is a planned contribution that you arrange now but that won't benefit us until later. You may dictate this strategy, especially if you contemplate a sizable contribution. A deferred gift entitled to:

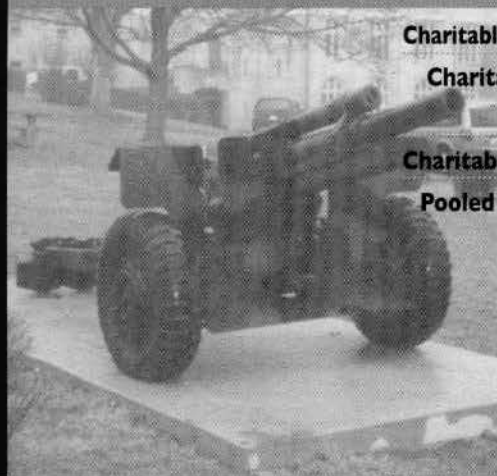


Bequest
Living or testamentary trust
Life insurance
Qualified retirement plan

- Through your will, give us money, property or a share of estate residue.
- Create a trust that will pay income to you or a relative for life, and then part or all of the remainder to us.
- Name us the primary or contingent beneficiary—or transfer a policy to us now.
- Name us as primary or contingent beneficiary of part or all of your qualified plan or IRA.

Life Income Gift

This gift plan ensures that you (and your spouse if you so desire) will have an income for life. You transfer assets to the plan now, take the tax deduction now, and we provide you with a higher income stream.



Charitable remainder annuity trust
Charitable remainder unitrust
Charitable gift annuity (where available)
Pooled income fund (where available)

- Fund with cash, securities or other assets.
- Fund with cash, securities or other assets.
- Fund with cash or other assets.
- Fund with cash or securities.

Your gift makes a huge difference.

A planned gift can make a difference in your future and the future of the AMA Alumni Foundation, P.O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA.

Before you make any decisions, you should consult with your tax advisor. Tax laws differ widely from state to state and from year to year.

...the best way? First, you must plan when
...egy. The chart below will help you quickly
...to meet your needs and brighten our future.

ADVANTAGES

...sults of

- It's quick and easy and you receive an income tax deduction.
- You receive an income tax deduction and avoid capital gains tax.
- You receive an income tax deduction and avoid capital gains tax.
- This is a smart way for anyone in high estate and gift tax brackets to benefit us and pass principal to others with reduced estate or gift taxes.

...perhaps after your lifetime. Your unique personal circumstances
...you to membership in the Roller Society.

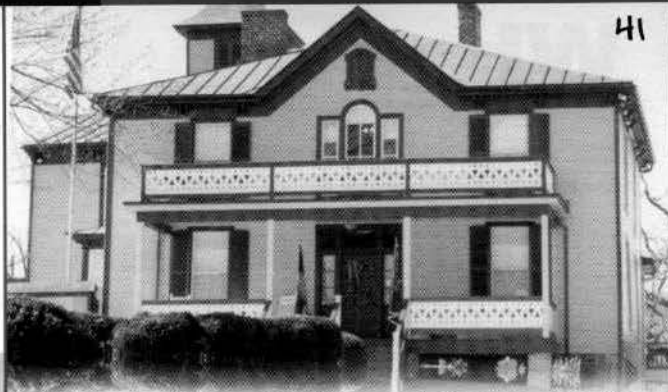
- A bequest can either be outright or contingent upon the death of a family member. You may consider a memorial gift.
- This trust provides for heirs first and us thereafter.
- You can contribute either a new policy or one no longer needed.
- This gift avoids twofold taxation (income and estate taxes) on distributions after your lifetime.

...e as well as substantial tax savings. You can convert low-yielding assets
...w, and AMA will receive the remainder after the beneficiary's lifetime.

- You receive payments of a fixed dollar amount for life.
- You receive a fixed percentage of market value of trust assets, revalued annually.
- You receive fixed payments for life without investment worries.
- You receive a pro rata share of pooled fund earnings for life.

...purs. If you want more information, drop a post card to:
A 24437-0100.

...eck with your financial advisor or your tax consultant.
...ederal tax laws and regulations are changing constantly.



41

How You Own Property May Affect Your Estate Planning

You sit down to construct your estate plan, or perhaps update an existing plan, and find that property is a significant asset. How you own that property—how you hold title—can influence the distribution of your estate. Primary ways to hold title on property and their effects on estate planning are.

- **Fee simple**, also called outright ownership, means you own the property by yourself and can sell it or give it away without anyone's consent. You may also leave the property to any beneficiaries you choose, so long as you recognize a spouse's marital interest.
- **Tenancy in common** is when two or more people have ownership. You can sell or donate your share as you wish, without the permission of other owners. Upon your death, your share of the property will go to your heirs or the beneficiaries in your will.
- **Joint tenancy with rights of survivorship** means that two or more people own equal shares of the property. When an owner dies, his or her share passes to the surviving owner(s) even if there is a will that says the property should go to someone else.
- **Tenancy by the entirety** is a form of joint property ownership that only applies to married couples. Neither spouse can sell property owned this way without the permission of the other. When one spouse dies, full title goes to the survivor.
- **Community property** laws apply to married people in Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin. The laws do vary, but generally hold that each spouse has a 50 percent interest in all property and at death can dispose of that interest as desired.

It's important to note that other factors not listed here may come into play when transferring property. Professional advice is recommended.

What a will can accomplish

Why do some folks neglect to have a will drafted?

Maybe it is neglect or just putting it off "until a better time." Unfortunately, too many people think they don't need to have a will. And they are wrong. Anyone with property who wants to decide what happens to that property after his or her death needs a will.

Why don't some folks have a will?

■ **"I don't have enough assets to need a will."** False. Anyone with any property – who cares about who will get that property – needs a will. Without a will, the state will decide (generally in a manner somewhat different from the way the person would have decided).

■ **"I'm too young to need a will."** Also false. Accidents do happen.

■ **"Everything is in joint ownership."** Joint ownership (with right of survivorship) has its pros and cons, too numerous to go into here. True, it will pass property to a surviving spouse, without the necessity of probate, but what happens if there is no surviving spouse? It won't help pass property on to children, grandchildren, and others in a situation where the husband and wife die at the same time.

A simple will can be drafted by an attorney, often for a few hundred dollars or less. Rather than having the state decide who receives your property, a will can decide. It can save hundreds or even thousands of dollars in future unnecessary expenses.

So, what can a will accomplish?

There are seven reasons to have a will:

1 > First and foremost, a will decides who receives your property when you die

If you die without a will, state laws will decide instead. Suppose you are married and have two children. You probably want your surviving spouse to receive all or

most of your property when you die. Without a will, the state may decide that your surviving spouse will receive only a third with each of your children also receiving a third. Moreover, who will receive your jewelry, works of art, and other items of special importance? Without a will, these things may go to others, people who you would not have chosen.

2 > A will can save unnecessary expenses

For example, as a general rule, your executor need not post bond if your will so declares. Your executor may also be given discretion to do many things without a court order every time. This saves your estate money.

3 > A will can save taxes

The impact of estate taxes, as well as future income taxes for your beneficiaries, often can be diminished through the use of appropriate estate planning arrangements. With estate taxes taking 37% to 55% – or more – of many estates, a carefully drafted will is crucial.

4 > Trusts can be created both to minimize taxes and to provide financial management for your beneficiaries

Often, a parent does not want to see a child receive significant assets at age 18. A trust can provide that the child receive only a reasonable amount from the trust until a later age. Thus, a child cannot waste the assets on foolish adventures and/or purchases.

5 > A guardian can be named to care for your minor children and their assets

6 > Individuals and/or a bank trust department can be named as executor and/or trustee

The executor must handle a number of important functions in the first year or so after the individual's death. This includes such items as gathering the assets, paying taxes, administering the estate, and finally, distributing the assets to those named in the will. A trustee may be named to administer a trust created by the will. The trustee's functions begin when the trust receives the assets from the executor.

A trust typically will last for a set number of years or until a beneficiary reaches a certain age, or dies.

7 > Worthy charitable institutions and organizations can be named in your will

Such bequests will be eligible for the estate tax charitable deduction, possibly saving your estate significant taxes. We hope that you will consider the August Military Academy Alumni Foundation in your estate plans.

How can I even begin to list all my assets in a will?

You don't have to. After you make specific bequests or gifts to various people, a "residuary clause" will take care of the rest of your property.

Do I really need an attorney?

Yes, you definitely should consult with a knowledgeable estate planning attorney. While a will does not have to be written by an attorney, why would you take a chance by trying to write one yourself? The small amount an attorney will charge will more than pay for itself in savings later on.

How do I find an attorney to draft my will?

Attorneys specialize in particular areas of the law just as doctors specialize in particular areas of medicine. Often, a friend or relative can refer you to an estate planning attorney to draft a will. An accountant, bank trust officer, or life insurance agent also can recommend names of good estate attorneys. And you can call your local or state bar association for a recommendation.

Making a will is not easy

Perhaps that is why millions of people avoid doing it. Four U.S. Presidents of the United States – Grant, Lincoln, Andrew Johnson and Garfield, each married with children – died without a will and their families paid a heavy price. Today, the estimate is that 60 per cent of American adults do **not** have a will.

We don't want you to be one of those people. Find an attorney and have him or her prepare a will for you. And don't forget about AMA. As the next few pages show, there are many ways to take care of your family and still leave something to a charity of your choice – including the **AMA Alumni Foundation, Inc.**

One day, your family will say "thank you."

High Hopes from page 31

had approved a special use permit. WHC, operated by an exercise therapist in Massachusetts, would provide conditioning and training for athletes, have a staff of 150, and would convert Big Barracks into two room suites to house the athletes during their 90 day training regimens. But WHC soon concluded that the \$950,000 asking price was "way out of line" considering all the work that would be needed to convert the barracks as envisioned. An engineer associated with the county had reported that the sewer system was in bad repair and that several storm drains were illegal. The local water authority stated that it would not sell water to the school until the return sewage was correctly processed. It also was concluded that all the campus buildings would have to be rewired.

At the 1985 reunion, Mahanes said that alumni were still hopeful of buying back the school. Doc Savedge led another melancholy Founder's Day solemnization in the Stone Church Cemetery.

In 1986, one Cecil Culbertson of Haymarket in Northern Virginia emerged as the real owner of AMA. He petitioned the Virginia Small Business Financial Association for \$3 million in industrial development bonds to turn AMA into a "continuing care facility... where people can live out their lives with whatever care they need." Culbertson said that he



AT REUNION 1997 - Jim Starnes, '50, with Colonel Mal Livick.

be found to develop a plan to reopen the prep school which had such a prominent place in his heart?

Starnes did not know that AMA had closed until he saw an ad in the *Wall Street Journal* announcing its pending sale. He immediately began to fashion a plan to use all of

"Young people of the future deserved a chance to enjoy the benefits we had as AMA cadets..."

was "unsuccessful" in convincing AMA and SMA alumni to join efforts to reopen a military academy.

That's not how **Jim Starnes, '50**, remembers it: *"Cecil Culbertson and his son, Doyle, never could get to a reasonable place in our negotiations... I was hoping to get them to invest in the project for which they would have had a substantial equity in the venture, but every time we got close, Cecil would revert to an outright sale of the school, and each time the price went up. The price eventually went to \$2 million and I broke off talks with them."*

Jim had many good reasons to love Augusta and to want to see it reopened. His father, **Captain George Starnes**, taught foreign languages at AMA in the 1920's. Jim came to Augusta for his last two years of high school and left AMA *"with memories of the cadets who cried at that last formation. It sent a powerful message to me that something as good as AMA really does deserve to exist and the young people of the future deserve a chance to enjoy the benefits we had as AMA cadets."*

After the University of Maryland (where he was the commander of one of the four ROTC battalions) and a tour as an Air Force pilot, he worked for IBM, Burroughs and the computer division of RCA, each in a senior executive position. He founded and was President of FYI Online, a joint venture between MCI and Equifax. He retired in 1986. With all this business experience, what better person could

the school buildings and grounds for a two year military junior college. He would build a retirement community on the high land behind Big Barracks. With a sweeping view across the Valley, this property would be home for retired teachers, retired military and clergy who would provide some of the staff for his Virginia Military Academy (VMA).

The linchpin to opening a school was an academic program: *"My plan was to have a junior military college with the curriculum provided by Blue Ridge Community College just four miles north of the AMA campus... I received lots of encouragement from the BRCC officials. A student could attend VMA for his last two years of high school and receive credit for the first two years at any Virginia state college or university."* Starnes even figured out how to get students from the AMA campus to the BRCC campus: he would buy used school buses which BRCC industrial arts students would refurbish. And since BRCC hoped to establish an equine studies program to help Virginia's horse industry, Jim envisioned a cavalry unit at VMA.

Despite a cool reception from the general at Fort Monroe who was in charge of the Reserve Officers Training Corps (a VMI alumnus incidentally), Jim had better luck when he visited the Virginia Adjutant General. With the help of General Arch Sproul, former CG of the 29th Division and a member of the AMA Board of Trustees, Jim visited with the Army National Guard Chief at the Pentagon and with Jack

Marsh, the former Congressman who had represented Augusta County and was to become Secretary of the Army. It seemed that things were falling into place.

But what could be done about the buildings that were deteriorating at an alarming pace? In 1980, Colonel Livick had asked an architect to prepare an estimate for what it would take to put the physical plant back into shape. His estimate: \$4.5 million, a figure clearly out of reach for an institution where expenses were up and enrollments were down. Now, several years later, serious problems were beginning to manifest themselves.

Culbertson did very little maintenance even though he had a friend who lived on campus and contrived some strange and ineffective renovations (such as installing vinyl over the swimming pool roof and holding it in place by stacking automobile tires on it). Big Barracks was still basically sound and Jim was counting on individual alumni or alumni classes to refurbish the rooms *"with cash, sweat equity or a combination."*

The wooden buildings were a bigger challenge. Load bearing walls had been removed in some structures causing sagging and roof leaks. The Big Room would be kept as is, Hoover Hall would be remodeled, and a steel structure connected to J Barracks (Davis Hall) would house a mess hall, a cadet activities center and an auditorium.

Having played a double-belled euphonium in the AMA

ground." But Jim says by this time, he was running out of gas: *"I had spent two years fulltime trying to get AMA up and running and had run up considerable personal expense. There was just too much to do and too many obstacles to overcome."*

Culbertson then talked about opening a military school himself, but would not give any details. Doyle Culbertson went back to Starnes to ask his help in getting the school going by raising \$625,000 from AMA alumni, the amount his business plan called for to reopen the school. Says Starnes: *"I told him that was ridiculous and I would have no part in supporting it."* Meanwhile, Roanoke architect **Norvell West, '83**, inspected the buildings on campus and said that if something was not done soon, they would deteriorate beyond salvation. West estimated that it would take some \$400,000 just to get the buildings back up to code.

Time dragged on with nothing being done at or for the school. Culbertson and his son, Doyle, were seen less and less until the summer of 1992 when they put the school up for sale again. The asking price: \$2 million plus some \$35,000 in back taxes.

Enter the Moores, a name Augusta alumni wish they had never heard. In the fall of 1992, the Augusta Stone Church bulletin carried this announcement: *"Harold and Judith Moore have purchased Augusta Military Academy with the intention of reopening the school in 24 months."* The

"Harold and Judith Moore have purchased Augusta Military Academy with the intention of reopening the school..."

Band, Jim also saw the need for a peerless marching band. *"I had contacted the retired Bandmaster of the British Royal Marines and was working with the Shenandoah Conservatory in Winchester to attract top musicians to the VMA Band."*

So, Starnes seemed to have it all in place: a curriculum, a retiree base for faculty and staff, possible funding from the US Army Reserve and National Guard which would bring down the tuition to just \$800 per cadet each year, probable accreditation, a campus, transportation, and perhaps the best prep school band in the land.

"But, as it always does, it came down to money," Jim says. *"There were so many things that needed to be done to make the physical plant usable, and Culbertson simply would not price the property reasonably. This was tragic because all the other pieces were in place"*

Thus, in June of 1989, ended the best legitimate chance to see a military school again on our Fort Defiance campus. Starnes did investigate the purchase of the Quality Inn Motel in downtown Satunton which could have housed 200 cadets, two to a room, and which had dining facilities and a swimming pool. This would have been a temporary "barracks" and Blue Ridge Community College would be used for academics. The City had agreed in principle to permit certain cadet athletic activities in Gypsy Hill Park and the closed Robert E. Lee High School a few blocks away could have provided other facilities, including a "parade

Moores showed up at an AMA Alumni Association Board meeting soon after where Harold said he had attended The Citadel and that his son had attended Fork Union Military Academy. He claimed to have purchased the school from Culbertson with the closing to take place in eight to ten months. Judith Moore said they expected to spend more than \$47 million eventually to do all that they planned for the school. They also offered some tasty bait: alumni applications for jobs at the new school would be given priority over all other applicants.

Culbertson would only say that he was in negotiation with the Moores.

The Moores convinced VMI to send its Color Guard to the "rededication" of Augusta Military Academy on the blacktop by the Front Arch on 20 January 1993. On the day Bill Clinton was being sworn in to his first term of office in Washington, the Moores were in Fort Defiance proclaiming their vast plans for the new AMA.

From the beginning, many were suspicious of the couple. They talked grandly about having 800 cadets by 1994 (remember that the largest Corps of Cadets in AMA's history was 550), a second "Big Barracks" to house them, a new science and technology center, a 125,000 volume library, a chapel and a new administrative building.

And a Cray supercomputer with NT "work stations" which in reality were not work stations but stand alone full function computers. Remember that this was 1993 at the very dawn

of the personal computer (PC) age and the standard was to have a work station tied to a master computer, but a Cray computer, the least expensive priced at \$2.2 million to \$7 million? Ed Click, '50, did some research and found that even the University of Virginia did not have a Cray computer: they merely shared time on one owned by the University of Pittsburgh. As he wrote in a 1993 *Bayonet*, "Nothing is ordinary about (the Moores') proposals... Everything they talk about is exotic... They promised to do certain things within 30 days, and I have seen nothing. I have no immediate hope for reopening the school." Jim Starnes also questioned the Moore proposal: "They are seeking eight times the funding we needed to open Virginia Military Academy... When I asked to see their plan, they refused to show it to me."

Judith Moore said she was a "financial consultant": in fact, she was a CPA who worked out of her home. Harold Moore said he worked for AMTRAK: he turned out to be a baggage handler or an on-train service representative, depending on which story one chose to believe. Her son, Scott Barden, had no known employment.

Their only problem with buying the school: money. What a huge surprise! The Moores set up what was called The Fort Defiance Foundation to accept donations. In March, readers of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* learned that the newborn school would have a special mission. An exiled Egyptian "prince" showed up on the campus to say that he had set up an AMA scholarship program to subsidize young Egyptian street urchins to the tune of \$20,000 a year, presenting AMA as "an alternative to the violence that the Muslim extremists offer." He also said publicly that he was lining up investors for the Moores (though he never explained why he himself was not going to invest).

Even while Egyptian "royalty" was on campus, R. M. Rodgers, who said that six of his relatives had attended AMA, was giving the Moores \$5,400 "to prime the pump." The Moores had convinced him they needed \$20,000 quickly "to demonstrate to bigger investors that they could attract money."

Stolen Social Security number

As spring came, so did more suspicions of wrongdoing. A Falls Church woman came forward to say that her Social Security number had been used fraudulently by Judith Moore to obtain an automobile loan and to attempt to get

credit cards: 38 credit inquiries were made in an 18-month period as Moore apparently tried to obtain credit cards on the stolen Social Security number.

When the story emerged that Judith Moore had bounced a \$16,000 check to the Watergate Hotel in Washington, a check written on The Fort Defiance Foundation account, Staunton *News-Leader* writer David Botkins began a thorough investigation of the Moores, her son, Scott Barden, and his friend, Joshua Hunley.

Reporter continues to dig

Botkins soon learned that the \$16,000 check at The Watergate was not the only bad check Judith Moore had written. A Fairfax County car dealer had gotten a \$32,000 check from her which bounced, and an Augusta County motel had a near \$600 check returned for lack of funds. All were written on the account of The Fort Defiance Foundation. Botkins contacted the Virginia Department of Consumer Affairs and found no listing of the Fort Defiance

Foundation; therefore, any solicitation of funds for the foundation was a direct violation of state law. Neither was the foundation listed with the State Corporation Commission and the Internal Revenue Service had no record of the foundation's having applied for tax exempt status, something the Moores had claimed repeatedly. Botkins also found a couple in Arlington who had been bilked by Judith Moore's son, Scott Barden. "I see a man with no morals or ethics,"



A ROYAL MESS - In front of Big Barracks in March of 1993, l. to r., Scott Barden, Egyptian "Prince" Osman Ibrahim, Judith Moore and R. M. Rodgers. Rodgers gave Judith \$5,400 which he never saw again. Barden is Judith's son.

said Jack Spitler who said Barden owed him \$1,500 in back rent. Barden shared the apartment with Joshua Hunley who had been arrested a few days earlier and charged with fraud in the unpaid Watergate bill. Botkins also discovered that Barden had attended Fork Union for a while, but had been expelled.

Botkins also found that **Chief Chester Cole**, an AMA instructor when the school closed, had given the Moores \$2,500. "I guess I've been the world's biggest sucker," Cole said, revealing that he had taken out a \$2,000 personal loan to advance money to Harold Moore and had given Judith \$500 "to cover expenses."

By this time, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation of the Virginia State Police had entered the investigation of the Moores and Augusta County began proceedings to sell the AMA property for the back taxes owed, a tax bill which had grown to \$42,000. In April of 1993, Doyle Culbertson said that the Moores had defaulted on the purchase contract

and that he considered the deal void. Again, Culbertson said there had been discussions with AMA alumni, *"but they never put together a solid proposal."* Jim Starnes would disagree vigorously. The Moores and their accomplices vanished from sight and there is no available record if they were ever convicted of any of the crimes with which they were charged.

In August of 1994, the Augusta County Board of Zoning Appeals tabled a request by the Culbertsons for a special use permit to operate a restaurant and catering business on the AMA campus *"to raise money to reopen the school."* The President of the alumni association at that time, **Gary Nicholson, '70**, said he doubted that the Culbertsons *"had the where-with-all to pull it off."* Mickey Gordon pointed out that the Culbertsons *"have shown no evidence that they have the capital to do anything... I don't believe they have \$1 million invested in the property as they claim."*

At about this time, Doyle Culbertson bounced a check at a Staunton motel.

In September, AMA was on the auction block again. Greater Ministries International, a multi-denominational organization, offered to buy two of the three AMA parcels, including all the buildings, for \$345,000. The Culbertsons moaned that the property was worth between one and two million dollars and tried several last minute efforts to thwart the sale culminating in the bank which held the mortgage bringing suit against them. The Culbertsons "reorganized," and took Chapter 11 bankruptcy for the new entity, designed to slow down the transfer to Greater Ministries. The U.S. Bankruptcy Court found bad faith on the Culbertsons' part and gave them but a week to appeal. Instead, the Culbertsons filed a second bankruptcy under Chapter 7. While this petition eventually was thrown out, Greater ministries, frustrated with the delays, withdrew their offer.

In April of 1995, the bankruptcy referee tried to sell all or part of the AMA campus to Eugene Nervo, the owner of Craig County Wilderness Leadership Academy (WLA), to create a place for "at-risk" youth, but those two words would nix the deal. Nervo, a retired Marine colonel, ran a wilderness training camp in rural Craig County in the mountains of Southwest Virginia. Nervo was interested only in the gymnasium and Davis Hall (J Barracks), but offered \$345,000 for the entire property. The deal was contingent upon WLA's obtaining a special use permit from the Augusta County Board of Zoning Appeals.

When Nervo talked of having 30 "at risk" boys on the AMA campus, newcomer residents of Fort Defiance, mainly

from a new housing development near the Stone Church, expressed alarm. Nervo met with objectors at the Stone Church but failed to win them over. Two days later, a group of AMA's neighbors went to court to block Nervo's plan to open the WLA at AMA. Click attended the meeting at the church and wrote to alumni, *"What Colonel Nervo wants to do seems very much like what Charles S. Roller, Jr. did so well. His (Roller's) refusal to accept the incorrigible label saved many a boy."*



ONE MORE ATTEMPT - Gerald Payne of the Greater Ministries International, Inc. of Florida made the high bid for AMA in September of 1994, but was frustrated by the Culbertsons.

In the meantime, Nervo's principal financial backer pulled out and the colonel was running out of time. The bank had forced another auction and unless Nervo got approval for the WLA and got his money together, he would have to give up the fight. Among letter writers to local newspapers who favored having the WLA in Fort Defiance, one wrote: *"You could have found 'at risk' boys at Augusta Military Academy... At least the 'at risk' boys at the Wilderness Academy are not being taught to use guns."* With friends like that...

Nervo abandoned his offer and another auction was held on 6 October. This time two Augusta County developers bought the school and announced immediately that they didn't know what they were going to do with the property, *"but it definitely will not be a school."* Kennard Campbell

and I. H. Baker paid \$300,00 for all the AMA buildings and 53 acres of land and said they would subdivide the land on the hill behind the school. If AMA alumni wanted to save any of the buildings on campus, they were told it was up to them to come up with ideas.

The Culbertsons are thought to have gotten not one single penny from this transaction.

While there were repeated rumors about the resale of the school, the subdivision of the land, and the operation of various businesses on the campus, nothing came of any of the schemes until November of 1997, two years after they had purchased the school, when Kennard and Baker sold AMA to a consortium of Virginia Pentecostal Churches. In January of 1998, the purchase was completed and shortly after, AMA alumni were invited to have a presence on the campus. The AMA Alumni House/Museum is the result.

In January of 1999, Jim Starnes traveled to Norfolk to present his plan for a two-year military junior school to church officials. *"They were very courteous and nice to me, but I had to assume that they simply were not interested."*



*The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft a-gley
And leave us nought but grief and pain, for promised joy.*

One thrives, one closes

Fishburne, AMA: a study in contrasts

From the Waynesboro News-Virginian
January 28, 1984

Every military school faced it — the combination of antiwar sentiment, spiraling energy costs and declining enrollments — the crisis that brought prosperous schools to their knees.

After years of thriving economies and growing cadet corps, the nation's military schools watched in horror as their enrollment and their revenues dwindled. Hundreds of schools closed their doors permanently in the 1970s.

Others, like the Augusta Military Academy at Fort Defiance, struggled into the 1980s only to collapse under a mound of bills. When 119-year-old AMA closed this month, its debt exceeded \$400,000, its cadet corps numbered fewer than 100 and its buildings needed repairs from the boiler to the roofs.

Yet some schools, like Fishburne Military School, emerged from the stormy '70's stronger than ever with a full corps of cadets and a growing endowment. Understanding the fate of the two area schools demands a look at the nature of the two institutions in the years of plenty and the decisions each school made during the lean years.

Fishburne almost closed

In many ways, Fishburne's history had prepared the school and its alumni well for a crisis that threatened the school's existence. For in 1950, as alumni almost lost the school as, in a surprise move, it was sold to the City of Waynesboro. The chagrined alumni eventually bought the school back and worked together for the \$400,000 needed to pay the city.

At that point, alumni joined in the administration of the school with the newly formed non-profit corporation, the Fishburne-Hudgins Educational Foundation, Inc. The brush with extinction not only crystallized alumni support for the school, but also provided a means for continued support — the non-profit status by which alumni can make tax-deductible contributions.

The legacy of alumni support has continued into the '80's with former cadets contributing nearly \$100,000 a year to the school, said Foundation President J.B. Yount, III. When the foundation considered closing the school in 1976, alumni contributed \$25,000 to keep their *alma mater* going.

AMA, on the other hand, did not even keep in touch with its alumni until 1970, when the Alumni Association was formed. The school did not obtain its non-profit status until 1977. Contributions have never been a regular source of income even though former cadets did raise the money to build an infirmary, said Gordon Metz, '68, AMA Alumni Association president.

AMA not faced with closing

Now that the school has closed its doors, its alumni have rallied in an effort to raise \$2.5 million to purchase and reopen it. Metz expects a large response from his fellow alumni. Until now, AMA's former cadets had not been faced with the loss of their school. Even in the recent financial

crisis that closed the school, the AMA Board of Trustees remained hopeful until the final hour, one board member related. *"We made it through the '70's. Up until the time the power was pulled by VEPCO, I thought we would make it through this,"* he said.

Surviving the '70's, a time when more than two-thirds of the nation's military schools closed, was indeed an accomplishment. But decisions made and priorities set in these crisis years affected the fate of Fishburne and AMA in the years to come. Under a strong management team, backed by the 20-year-old foundation, Fishburne experienced a renaissance after its dark years.

As Fishburne watched its enrollment drop from 225 in 1968 to 96 at the beginning of 1975, the management took steps to insure the school's survival. To cut soaring energy bills, the school closed down all unused parts of the barracks and buildings, cut off lights and pulled out phones. Fishburne's relatively small size, said Headmaster Robert Miller, cut down on the overhead costs.

Despite some reservations, the school accepted a handful of boys sent by public agencies which partially offset enrollment declines, recalled Colonel Stanley Harris, former Commandant of Cadets. The added enrollment from these youths helped the school stay afloat in the harshest years, he said.

"Without them, the school would have had great difficulty," he said. *"They just gave us breathing space for a couple of years."* Then, Fishburne climbed out of its enrollment slump with an influx of cadets from Staunton Military Academy which closed in 1976. SMA's owner, Lane E. Leoffler, recommended Fishburne as the only military school his students should attend. As a result, 44 students transferred to the Waynesboro school, bringing enrollment up to about 160 — only 30 short of capacity. With its enrollment problem under control, Fishburne turned its attention to buildings and grounds, sorely in need of work.

Help came from an unexpected source — the Federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. Fishburne's creative general manager Robert Kerby applied for a couple of CETA workers and ending up running the program for all of Waynesboro, Staunton and Augusta County. As a non-profit organization, Fishburne qualified for the program. The school provided the work and materials for laborers and the federal government paid the salaries. The program pumped revenue into the community as it saved Fishburne some \$400,000 in labor costs.

Lots of work gets done

In the years that followed, the school's brick buildings were sand-blasted, the tiles in the swimming pool replaced, cadets rooms painted or paneled and carpeted and the dining hall and auditorium remodeled. The results were dramatic, Foundation President Yount recalled. *"Alumni and cadets are prouder of the school now that it looks better than ever,"* he related. *"Cadets treat the building with respect."* Former

Commandant Harris sees the renovations of the grounds as key to the school's continued success.

The good condition of the school appeals to prospective students and parents "shopping around" for a military school, he explained. If more students apply, the school will have greater selectivity to maintain its high-calibre corps, he said. Throughout the troubled years of antimilitary sentiment and declining enrollment, the school retained the military calibre of the corps and remained a Junior ROTC Honor School, Miller stressed.

At AMA, efforts to maintain the traditional quality of the corps and facilities slipped in the '70's as the school struggled to pay its bills, said one alumnus. To combat declining enrollment, AMA accepted boys from state agencies. As the '70's wore on, the school accepted more of them than it probably should have, the former cadet said. Some of these boys had a negative effect on others in the corps, he indicated.

Can't afford ads

Yet the school could not afford to advertise in magazines to attract new students, Alumni Association President Metz said. *"When you're struggling for \$500 to pay the janitor, you're not going to spend \$15,000 to \$20,000 on ads."*

The school, which once had more than 500 cadets, dropped as low as 81 before Christmas last year. Also, the school's physical facilities fell into disrepair as funds grew scarce, Metz added. *"Money started to dwindle. Consequently, you cut corners and those projects that didn't need attention didn't get done,"* he recalled.

In the midst of these problems, management of AMA changed hands as it became non-profit. In 1976, a board of trustees assumed control from the Livick family, descendants of the school's founder. To add to the confusion, the school had three different superintendents in the past four years.

A good corps or no corps

Two years ago, the board and management decided to reverse the school's direction, Metz said. *"We decided a year or two ago to have a good Corps of Cadets or no corps at all. We are a good school with a good tradition and we are going to get back to that tradition."*

AMA reinstituted the Honor System which had slipped into disuse over the years. The managers actually turned away students deemed too troublesome. Maintenance work began around the school and an admissions and development director was hired to improve enrollment and alumni giving.

AMA began to see results, Metz said. Twelve new students had enrolled for the semester starting in January. But the school never opened for its second semester.

"We just did not have the money to buy the time we needed."



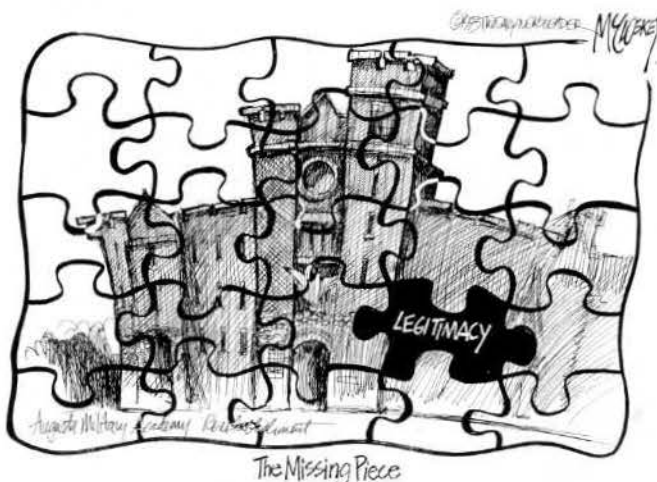
Some comparisons with other Augusta County academies

In 1968, Fishburne had 225 cadets (even though they said their capacity was 190) but just 96 in 1975 when they almost were forced to close. FMS went to a non-profit status immediately afterward. Fishburne alumni bought the school from the City of Waynesboro for \$400,000, raised an

additional \$25,000 for current expenses, and were contributing \$100,000 a year by 1983-84.

Staunton Military Academy had a larger corps with 600 or more in most years after 1920. (In the late 1960's, SMA formed two battalions.) When they closed in 1976, there were about 250 cadets which new owners decided was not a large enough student body to stay in business.

AMA said they had 550 cadets in 1968, but there are but 425 listed in the 1968 *Recall*. In December of 1983, the school was down to a student body of 81. The AMA Alumni Association was created in 1970 but Augusta did not become a non-profit until 1977.



This cartoon appeared in the Staunton News-Leader while the Moores were "trying to buy" AMA.

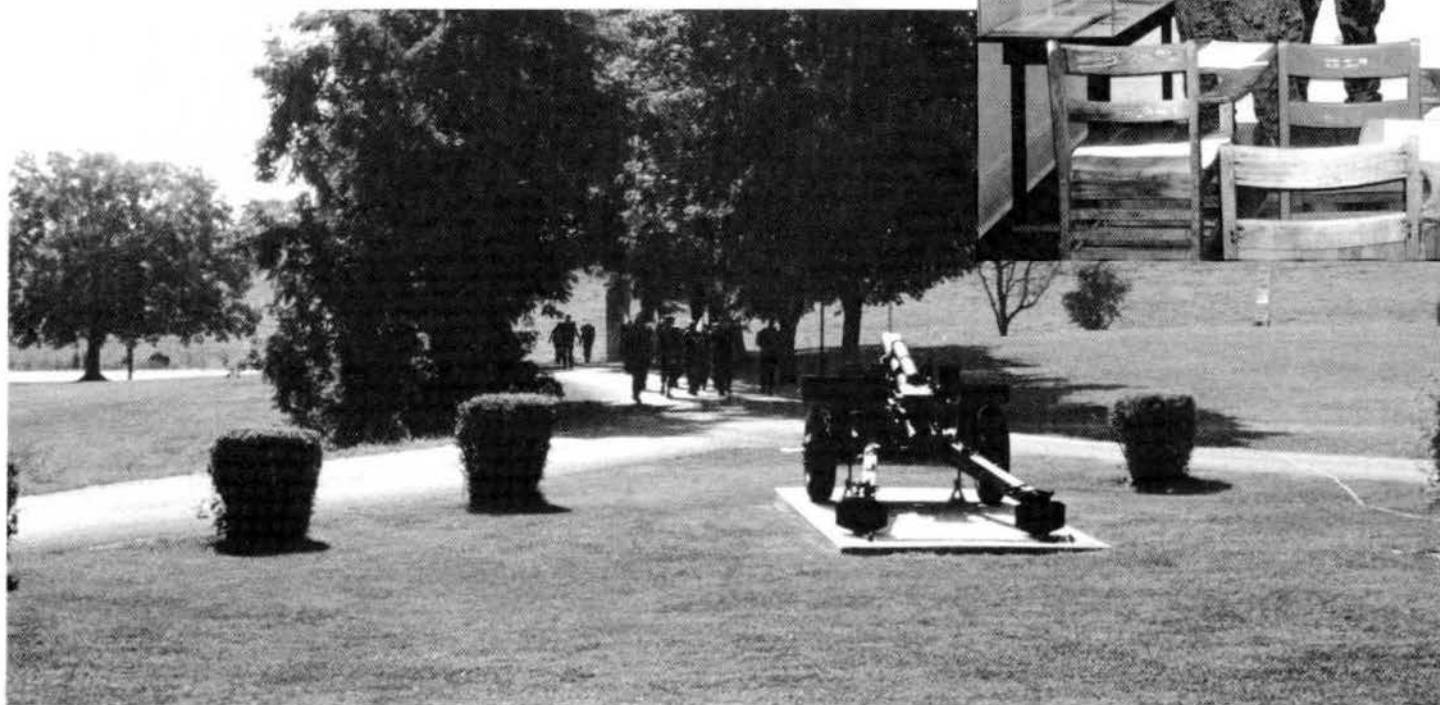


IN THE BEGINNING - Reverend Jim Dunlap, right, representing the consortium of Pentecostal Churches which owns AMA, talks with AMA alumni at the 1998 reunion explaining how the Roller-Robinson House could become the AMA Alumni House/Museum. Alumni, l. to r., are Frank Spencer, '49; Steve Trent, '70; and John Hash, '75.

VMI cadets pause at AMA on way to New Market

Replicates 1864 Civil War trek to join Confederate Army in battle

In September, a unit of Virginia Military Institute cadets stopped for lunch outside the AMA Museum on their annual commemorative trek to honor VMI's participation in the Battle of New Market, the last Southern victory in the Shenandoah Valley in the Civil War. In 1864, 264 cadets made the near 75 mile forced march from Lexington to New Market up the Valley Pike (which is now Route 11). One hundred forty years later, sixteen VMI boys were on their way to New Market when they paused, visited the AMA Museum and ate a fantastic lunch prepared by AMA Museum Volunteer **Joyce Zinkhan**.



CONTRIBUTIONS for 2004 YTD

These lovely people made contributions to the AMA Alumni Association and/or the AMA Alumni Foundation so far in 2004. We thank them and salute them! Without the help of our friends, you would not be reading The Bayonet, our Museum would close and we would have no scholarships to offer. Look into your heart, decide what AMA means to you, and please let us hear from you soon.

GIVING LEVELS

Cadet Club Up to \$50
 White Leader \$50 to \$99
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Duke Fancher, `58
 Garry Granger, `71
 Donald F. Harris, `64
 John Hash, `75
 Jerry Izenberg, `48
 Joseph Levy, `66
 Benjamin Lindsay, `51
 Roger Messick, `52
 Reed Nettles, `72
 Donald Russell, `60
 Luke Snyder, `60
 Frank Spencer, `49
 Mitchell Toms, `67
 Rod Willey, `51

BLUE LEADER

Walter Anderson `59
 Mike Basto, `63
 Mary Clyde (Ward) Bell
 David E. Brewer, `46
 Bobby Chauncey
 Robert Coffman
 Dave Conrad, `59
 James Crawford, `61

Buckner Creel, `40
 Dominion Foundation
 (Matching Gift/Frank Spencer, `49)
 Donald Everitt, `63
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 Rob and Kathy Freer
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 Ken Hoke, `54
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 Alex Kozma, `50
 Samuel Lambert, `59
 Thomas Lassell, `54
 Dr. Edward Leventen, `46
 Edward Longmire, `68
 Virginia Mahanes
 (in honor of Jim, `56, and
 in memory of Ronnie, `53)
 Harry May, `47
 Jim McCausland, `39
 John T. McKenna
 Brenda Metz
 Phillip Myers, `71
 Noelle Nicholson, `75
 Shawn Ogimachi, `77
 Gene O'Neal, `69
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 Chuck Pine, `49
 Karen Powell
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 Robert Rhea, `47
 George Richardson, `64
 Charles E. Roller
 William A. Rubush, `49
 Gordon Saunders, `60
 Bill Scarborough, `69
 Donald Schwebel, `75
 Ambassador John Shirley, `49
 Frank Shultz, `41
 Richard Smail, `67
 George Snarr, `46
 Stuart Solan
 Lawrence Spillan, `61
 Paul Sposito, `51
 Delorise Sterling

Don Studer, Faculty
Barnes Townsend, `60
Donald Tucker, `63
Hal Walters, `48
Parker Ward, Jr.
Phillip Wharton, `63
James White, `52
Dr. Richard Whittaker, `72
Betsy Willcox
Dan Yellott, `51
John Zirkle, `59

WHITE LEADER

Paula Abel
Tom Behrendt, `40
V. T. Bell
Raymond Bennington, `51
William Bowers, `69
Ruby Bratton
Ethyl Chow
C. A. Cleveland, `51
John Congdon, `52
George Detwiler, `50
Lloyd Eastlack, `59
Betty Fewell
Cade Holliday, `48
Arthur Hurme, `61
Joe Josephson, Faculty
Michael Kidd, `72
Peter Lambert, `44
John & Elizabeth McCue, `50
Richard McLaughlin, `49
Bill McOwen, `44
John Miller, `70
Thomas Mitchell, `52
Joe Morrow, `75
Ralph Parker, `51
Leo Poole (for Alan Poolle, `67)
George Reaves, `69
Edmund Ryan, `45
Cole Sandridge, `52
Betty Spigle
VMI cadets
Ann Webster
Robert White, `60
Valerie Woods
Kenneth Wray, `51

CADET CLUB

Joan & John Beneventi
Phil Bentley, `83
Ernesto Calvo, `52
Mark Coolahan, `73
Rosemary Doucette
Edward Dulin, `54
Rolando Granda, `44

Colonel Dean Hanson, `63
William Hastings, `48
Paul Karch, `79
Raymond Long, `45
Lewis Munda, `53
James O'Hara, `39
Robert Rhodes, `63
William Rulon, `50
Joseph B. Yount



Have you given yet in 2004? We hope that your name is on the list, above. If it is, we thank you and hope that will be able to move up on the list the next time we print it.

If you are NOT on the list, please remember that our needs are ongoing and they are NOW. The expenses of the AMA Legacy Scholarship and VMI Scholarship Funds, the AMA Alumni House/Museum, and *The Bayonet* are ongoing. We have checks to write every month and we do need your considered help.

As we always say – look into your heart and decide what AMA means to you.

A contribution to the AMA Alumni Foundation is *tax deductible* under both Federal and State law. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization specifically created to give our donors a tax deduction.

Mail your check to: AMA Alumni Foundation, P. O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101.

And yes, you can use VISA.
Or MasterCard.

And now even American Express!

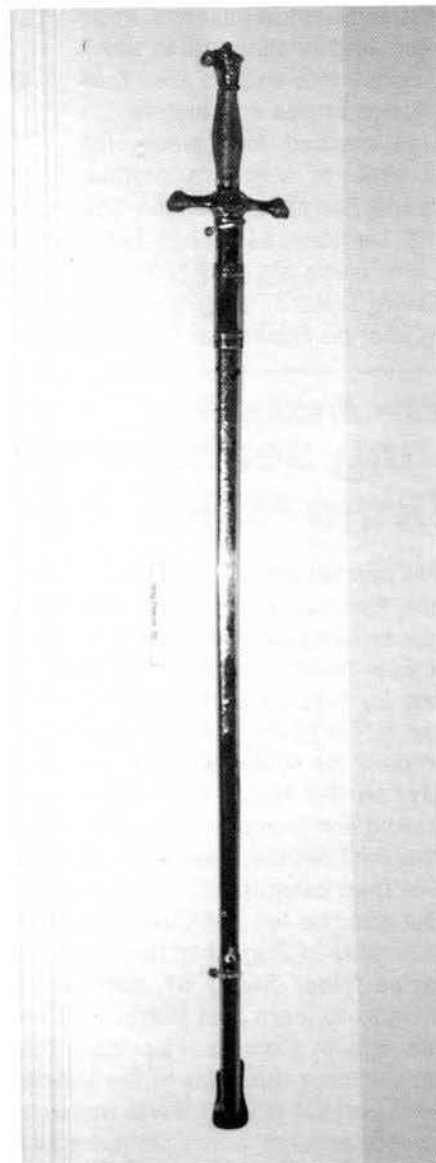
To use a credit card, give us your card number, the expiration date, and sign your name. Mail to the address above or FAX to: 540/248-4533.



New Jersey couple first to visit Museum after interstate signs go up

The first "customers" to be inticed by the new interstate highway signs to visit the AMA Museum were John and Connie Ingrassia of Stanhope, NJ who said they had absolutely no connection with AMA. "We were just driving by a saw the sign," said Mr. Ingrassia.

Both commended our museum and said that their tour guide was "very knowledgeable and informative." The museum staff had not heard that the signs were up until the Ingrassias stopped by midday on 24 September.



THIS SWORD has been donated to the AMA Museum by Greg Pearce, `65. It now hangs in an honored place at the museum.

Son of two AMA alumni

Joe Glenn, '27, and Doug Dillard, '38

Vernon F. Glenn is a trial lawyer in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, the son of one Augusta alumnus and the stepson of another!

His father was the late **Joe Glenn, '27**, who passed away in 1954. Joe went from AMA to Woodbury Forest and was preparing to go to the University of North Carolina when his father died and left him the money to buy a home oil heating company in Winston-Salem. His company, Quality Oil, went on to sell and transport gasoline, heating oil, and aviation fuel to which he added interests in area convenience stores and motels.

Joe married four times, the last time to Vernon's mother, Rosena Ferrell, of Winston-Salem, in 1948. Vernon was born in 1950 and a brother came along in 1951.

Doug Dillard, '38, attended Davidson after he finished at AMA and then

went to New York where, says Vernon, *"his athleticism and dashing good looks propelled him into execu-*

tive positions with Munsingear and then Washington Mills... For a while, he lived in Greenwich Village with TV host Gene Rayburn."

Dillard came back to Winston-Salem in 1956 where he met and courted Vernon's mother and in 1957, they went to New York to get married. As Vernon tells it, *"47 years later, they are still happily hitched*

and are off on a cruise ship some place off the coast of Alaska as I write this... Doug is a fellow of fine intellect and dependable good humor."

Dillard retired years ago as Chair-

man of the Board of Washington Group, but still goes to his office every day selling and leasing real estate.

In AMA's debt

"All we children are in AMA's debt," says Glenn. *"Doug Dillard has taught us self-sacrifice, discipline, doggedness, tenacity, accomplishment, curiosity and adventure, not to mention 'How to make your bed and clean up your room!'"*

Joe Glenn is buried in Salem Cemetery in Winston-Salem. His stay at Augusta was abbreviated but his son says it made a lasting impact on him.

Dillard was 2nd lieutenant in A Company though he was a "Busted Aristocrat" his senior year meaning that he had been reduced in rank for some rule infraction. He was on the boxing, track, rifle, fencing and Tiger football teams and was on the Final Ball Committee.

Many thanks to Vernon Glenn for telling us about his dad and stepdad.



Douglas Dillard, 1938 Recall

Roger Brooke, '51

Long search ends for AMA Drum Major, Band Captain

He was tall, athletic and handsome and his plumed shako made him look even taller. With his flowing red cape, few who saw him march at the head of the AMA Band in 1949-51 will ever forget his presence. **Roger Taney Brooke, '51**, came to Augusta from Washington, DC and was an AMA cadet for six years. Not only was he the commander of Band Company his senior year, he was an Officer of the Student Body, on the Honor Committee, and captain of both the wrestling and lacrosse teams. His fellow cadets voted for him in the best athlete, best built, most handsome and biggest ladies man categories.

But after he left AMA, he was lost to us for these many years. Only in August of this year did Roger's AMA friend **Charles "Hap" Starr, '51**, track down one of Roger's sons in Florida to learn that Roger had passed away nearly 20 years ago in Canada. Hap says that Roger got into the copper mining business in the Western United States and later in Canada where he was manager of a company called Carpc Research which did extraction of copper from ore. While Brooke lived in British Columbia, Canada, he bred and raised horses, and there he died in 1985.

Starr spoke with Roger T. Brooke, III, the last of five children born to AMA's Roger and his first wife, Alice, with whom Starr also spoke. Both live in Jacksonville.



LEADING THE BAND - Roger Brooke in full drum major regalia. Below, left, class photo. Below, right, captain of the wrestling team.



SPOTLIGHT on TOM DeIVALLE, '73

American Airlines: doing what he does best

"I liked the AMA rifle team. It only counted if you made your shot... I'm a straight up-and-down guy. You know exactly where you are with me"

That is the attitude that **Tom DeIValle, '73**, has taken into every assignment he has been given by American Airlines since he joined the nation's number one carrier as a flight attendant in 1976. He says he learned "aggressive leadership" in his six years as an AMA cadet and has carried that into his career. Tom and his family were living in Venezuela when his Dad decided that he needed to become "Americanized." At age 13, Tom arrived in Fort Defiance: *"My Dad insisted that I come to AMA for at least a year. My Mother insisted that I come back for a second year. The other four years were my ideal!"*

When DeIValle finished at AMA, he went to Pfeiffer College in North Carolina, then to Miami, and started with American in 1976. *"They were only hiring flight attendants, so I did that for seven years. Since I spoke both Spanish and Portuguese, they based me in Chicago and I flew to South America a lot."* After a transfer to Dallas where AA has its headquarters, Tom decided to go into management.

After a tour as a flight service manager in the Big D, he transferred to La Guardia in New York City as manager of passenger services.

Sent to Europe

After another assignment in Dallas, Tom was sent to Belgium in 1989 as the General Manager in Brussels with responsibility for American's operations in Brussels, Madrid and Milan. During the first Iraq War, he had the responsibility for the MAC airlift of food and fuel out of the United States. *"On the way back, they would use Milan as a fuel stop,"* Tom says. *"It was a very interesting time. We pushed the limits of our fleet logistically about as far as you can go."*

Tom met Patti, a flight attendant, when he was in Dallas. At age 33, he had his first child, Annie, who is now 15 and learning to drive. Three years later, Avery, now 12, joined the DeIValle family. *"They both have discovered boys... I am deployed only as a last resort... But they are really good girls with good character and they are aggressive in their own right."*

After Brussels, Tom moved to Puerto Rico to become the President of American Eagle which operates turbo-props out of Miami and throughout the Caribbean. *"This was very different from big jet flying. Lots of short hops but into beautiful places, plus it was fun living in San Juan."* He was there for five happy years before going to Los Angeles as American's Station Manager while the new American terminal was being constructed and the airline increased its daily flights in and out of LA from 60 to 200.

Now Tom and his family are back in Dallas where he is the Vice President for Customer Service for American's 90 cities in the United States and Canada. He's been in this job for four and a half years. What's next? *"Maybe Miami or the Caribbean. I like those assignments where I can use my language skills. That part of the world is more like home"*



BAND MAN - Thomas R. DeIValle, AMA Band, 1972-73. He was Captain of Band Company in 1973.

to me than anywhere else, except for AMA."

DelValle says that Augusta prepared him for his business career in so many important ways: *"In my six years at AMA, you competed for rank, in academics and sports. I spent four years on the rifle team and it only counted if you made your shot. AMA helped me meet the aggressive requirements of corporate America."*

Looking back on his youth he can't help but wonder where he would have ended up were it not for Augusta. *"I have no dreams that are better than my reality,"* he says. *"My family, a job I love, my health and my friends from AMA: it is phenomenal and I couldn't ask for more."*

DelValle's best friend is **Doug Pennock, '72**. *"We got off to a rocky start, but it has lasted,"* he says. During the five years that Tom was President of American Eagle living in San Juan, he and Doug had numerous opportunities to strengthen their friendship. While Doug did not go on the post 2004 Reunion Roller Riders excursion, he was there in front of Big Barracks to wish a *bon voyage* to Tom and his fellow bikers.

Trouble explaining AMA reunions

DelValle has trouble explaining to other friends why he comes to the AMA Reunions every year: *"They don't get it. It's so much more than a reunion, it's a gathering of good friends you get to see once a year, like another family... I learned to do the right thing at Augusta... I still have all the values I learned in six years as an AMA cadet and made the best friends... Pennock, Jim Hash, '72, and Mike Kidd, '72... really phenomenal friends."*

Tom roomed in a first stoop corner room with a sink, *"the height of decadence in that day."* His favorite teacher? *"Colonel Hoover because you never knew what the hell you were going to get into with him!"* His favorite non-approved activity? *"My parents moved to Buenos Aires from Venezuela and I would come back from summer vacation with this rot gut Brazilian Lemonade. The Virginia moonshiners would have been proud of this stuff. Hash and I drank a bottle and were paralyzed for eight hours."* Tom was a company captain at the end of his senior year. He was on the Privilege List, in the Roller Rifles, and played football, but the rifle team was his forte and he set a number of school records where he was a teammate with Hash and Kidd.

Wondered about alumni association

DelValle began attending reunions around 1987. *"At that time, it was pretty sad. I didn't know if the alumni would ever come together, so it is incredible to see where we are now. The great reunions and that fantastic AMA Museum."* Tom has come back to the campus all the way from Dallas



FLYING HIGH - Tom DelValle, Vice President American Airlines

to pull weekend duty at the museum. *"I figured I'd be sitting there pretty much alone getting caught up on AA stuff. But I had three days of heavy traffic... interesting people including some alumni who were back for the first time and ROTC kids from Mary Baldwin. When you are the curator for a weekend, you have a serious job, but it was so enjoyable walking through the museum and talking with these folks. We should all be very proud of our museum!"*

About American: *"The casualties on 9-11 were devastating and I lost some good friends. It put us in a financial dilemma... but we are adapting and changing to the new world we live in. The American employees are family with integrity and pride and are aggressive competitors. I stay with American because of the character of our people. It is a tremendous company! I have been with them for 28 years because the people here are much like the people at AMA."*

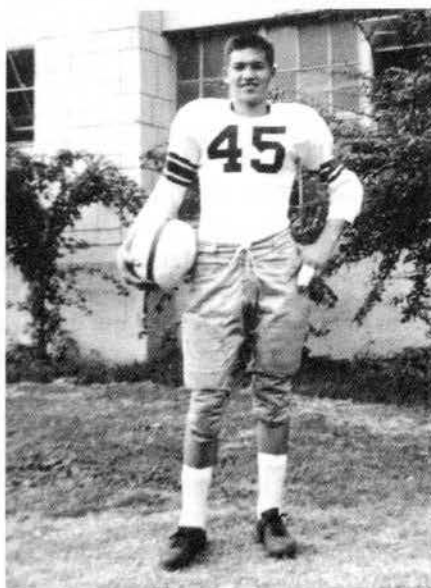
A big boo-boo

In the Summer *Bayonet*, we ran a photo and asked people to identify the "mystery cadet." **Colonel Mal Livick**, **Goodloe Saunders**, '57, and **Steve Tomasek** quickly identified the football player as **Jimmy Mahanes**, '56, as did a number of other people including **Mickey Toms**, '67, who told us that Jimmy's nickname at AMA was "China," pronounced Cheena.

Then, your editor took over and in spite of all the messages he had received that this is **Jimmy Mahanes**, he proceeded to identify him as **Ronnie Mahanes**. The fault is all mine and I have been involved in self-flagellation ever since I discovered my mistake. My apologies.



**Jimmy and Ronnie Mahanes
in a photo provided by their
Mother, Virginia Mahanes**



**This is the photo of Jimmy which
ran in the last issue.**

From Colonel Hoover's attic

After Colonel Hoover passed away, family members turned over to the Alumni Association many boxes of photos and slides which had been stored in the colonel's attic. Most had no information to identify them.



Who is the cadet at left with the fencing foil?

And who are the two guys in front of the Mess Hall, below, left?

E-mail answers to:

AMABayonet@aol.com

Write: Bayonet

529 Justin Morgan Drive

Alamo, CA 94507.

FAX 925/855-7342

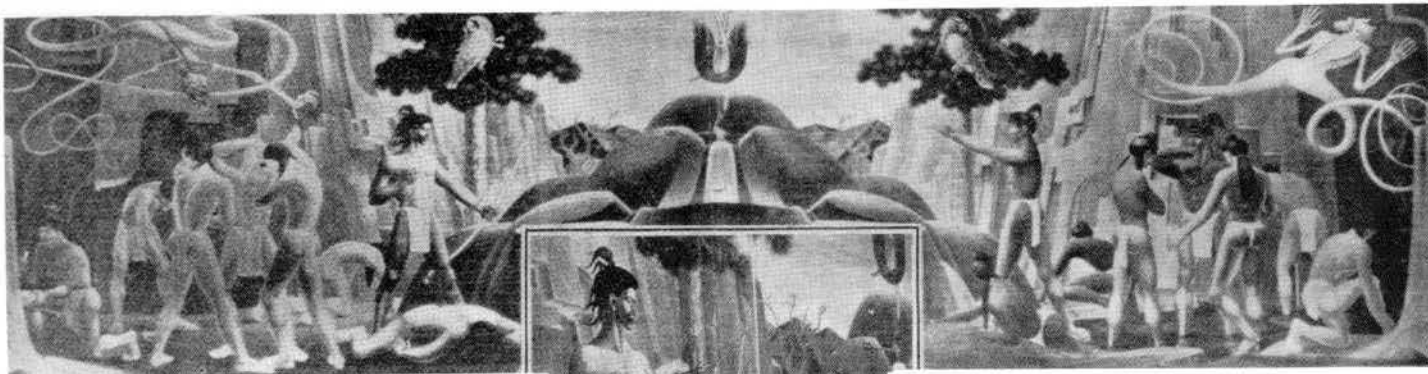


In the last issue, we asked for help in identifying the cadet with the softball in his hand, below, left. The first to answer was **Colonel Rutland Beard**, '42, who said that it is **Judge B. A. Davis**, '43. Soon after, we heard from Judge Davis himself who confirmed the ID. Thanks!

Quite a few wrote to identify the guys at Camp Kanata. All agreed that they are **Ed "Hap" Burke**, '55, in the foreground, and **Galen "Met" Metro**, '55, on the deck. **T. C. Lea**, '55, roomed with Hap and Met is one of his best friends. Others quick to identify the pair were **Tom Lassell**, '54, **F. E. Wirkus**, '55, and **Patrick Stanton**, '54.

Thanks to all of you!





Surrealism and Dadaism

Clay Spohn, '18, misunderstood modernist artist

Clay Edgar Spohn, Class of 1918, came to AMA from Oakland, California.

That in itself is worth pondering. A near 3,000 mile trip by a rattling train or by primitive automobile on two-lane roads, many unpaved and full of chuck holes, and on tires that tended to go flat about every 100 miles. Why would Spohn's parents have sent him all the way cross country in that day and age to attend our school in the last years of World War One?

When you have finished considering that, you may want to focus on why someone whose entire life was devoted to what became known as American Modernist Art (Surrealism and Dadaism) would prepare for that calling by attending a remotely located military academy with its structured view of the world. His early years seem to show a parental conflict, with his mother supporting his artistic bent while his father wanted to assure what one writer has called "his material stability." So, they attempted to reroute his energies and spirit through time at AMA, a short duty tour in the Navy and enrollment in economics courses at the University of California at Berkeley.

Finally, he seems to have won out for in 1922 he began his studies at the New York Art Students League (NYASL), financially supported by his parents. Spohn began to receive commissions to do murals, illustrations, and even commercial advertising. At NYASL, he met fellow student Alexander Calder and the two of them went off to Paris for further study.

Calder and Spohn in Paris

Paris was a place of growth for both artists. When Spohn returned to the San Francisco area in 1927, he submitted his abstract works to local art shows, but local artists sneered haughtily. He was so discouraged that he gave up painting for five years. With the coming of the Federal Arts Project (1935-42), Spohn re-energized himself and began to design and execute murals and painted abstract works. After the success of these ventures in 1939, Spohn won



Clay Spohn at work on the mural shown above, 1940.

THE LEGEND OF NEW ALMADEN, an egg tempura mural by Clay Spohn, '18, in the Los Gatos, CA High School.

first place in an art show sponsored by the San Francisco Art Association with one of the same drawings they had rejected just five years before! His unique approach produced an invitation to teach at the California School of Fine Arts where he "led his students away from social realism and the old way of thinking."

As a part of the depression era Work Projects Administration (WPA), Spohn did the mural, above, at the Los Gatos High

School in what is now Silicon Valley. He also did murals in several other public buildings in Northern California.

New York and California schools

The New York and California abstractionists were divided, like fish, into "schools." With Spohn an active participant, the California School of Fine Arts became world-renowned. Spohn continued to experiment, and each time he approached a subject, he veered off in a new untested direction. In 1951, Spohn joined the art colony at Taos, New Mexico, but his popularity waned and sales of his works tailed off. A noted art critic said that he remained "largely misunderstood by the public and the art establishment." He suffered fits of depression as he struggled to find acceptance.

Four days after he died at age 79 in 1977, the New York Times (which had not even noted his passing in its obituaries) announced a grant to Clay Spohn from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a recognition too late coming. He finished his life as he had begun it without compromise to the marketplace or the art establishment of his day.

Not much is known about Spohn's days as an AMA cadet. The yearbooks of that day contained only class pictures; individual cadets were not identified. About all we do know is that he was in B Company, was a member of the Cotillion Club, and had the nickname "Greeky Doodles." It appears that he left AMA to join the Navy before his rat year ended.

In 1971, Clay Spohn's hometown finally paid him honor: the Oakland, California Museum sponsored a retrospective on his work.



The Great Chief has just fired his arrow into the rock from which gushes forth water to cleanse the mercury-poisoned Ohlone warriors.

The story of the mural

The Indians were dying and they didn't know why.

The Ohlone Tribe had inhabited the area near today's Los Gatos, California for ten thousand years. Yet, now their young men were dying horrible unexplained deaths.

The braves ritually painted their bodies with a red pigment taken from the native soil. This red earth was cinnabar (quicksilver) from which they got mercury poisoning and eventual death.

Legend says that the Great Chief consulted with the gods and fired an arrow with an eagle's wing toward a nearby rock. A spirit appeared at the rock and beckoned the Indians to come toward her, touching a silver cross to the stone. Suddenly from the rock came a gusher of water in which they bathed and cleansed themselves of the cinnabar, and the spirit vanished when she was certain that the Indians understood.

That legend plays a part in the life of **Clay Edgar Spohn, '18**. As part of a federal government depression era art program, he was commissioned to paint murals at a number of California locations: the post office at Montebello near Los Angeles; one called *Fireman, save my child!* at the Carmel Fire Department; and a depiction of the Ohlone's cleansing on the wall of the Los Gatos High School.

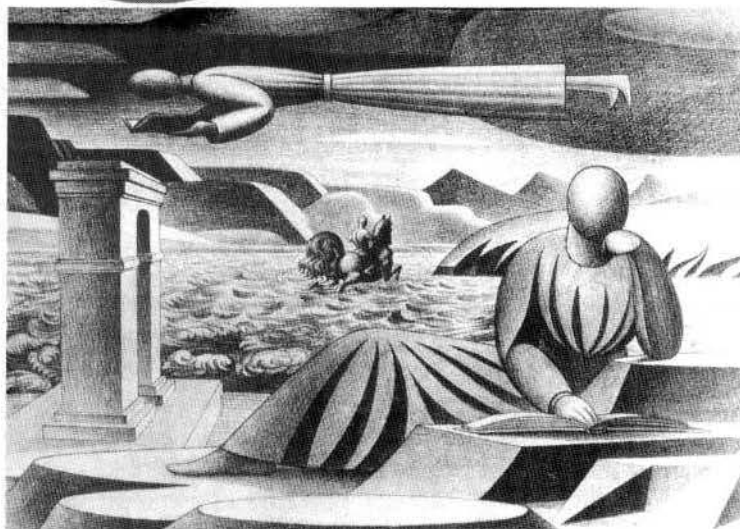
The mural of egg tempura on gesso board shows the Indians, at left, painted red with cinnabar as they are being poisoned by the mercury content. At the top left is an evil demon in green, disguised to be a good spirit. In the pine tree sits a half owl/half man signifying the soul in transition.

At the center, left, is the Chief who prayed for help. The good spirit in the center points to the rock and tells the Chief to send an arrow into its heart. Water rushes forth, the Indians bathe and are healed.

The figures at the right are painted in green to symbolize their purification. The evil spirit, now revealed in brilliant red, flies off in a rage. An owl, a good spirit, turns to watch him go.

UNDERSTANDING MODERN ART;

THE BOUNDLESS SPIRIT OF
CLAY EDGAR SPOHN



*Transcendental
Landscape,
lithograph, 1938.*

Most of Spohn's work was in brilliant color, thus justice cannot be done to much of his work when it is reproduced in black and white.

THE BOUNDLESS SPIRIT OF CLAY SPOHN - This full color book is a part of the AMA Museum collection of books by and about alumni.

The Roller Riders through the eyes of a new cadet

By **Michael Kidd, '72**
The New Cadet

It all started when I got the last issue of *The Bayonet*. Reading it over, the memories started to flood: some good, some not so good. Then the article about the Roller Riders caught my eye.

I was surprised to see who rode motorcycles. As the article unfolded, I thought how awesome this ride would be. I knew most of the guys from my days at AMA, but I always felt like I was on the outside looking in with some of them. It had been about eight years since I'd been back for my 25th year reunion, and that wasn't as good as it could have been. Even after 25 years, I still felt like the outsider. Yet, here I was again, thinking about becoming a "new cadet." I wasn't sure about going back to school and spending a week with those guys who always seemed distant, but I decided to contact **Bill Scarborough, '69**, anyway. Our e-mails continued to increase as we reminisced and discovered our mutual love for motorcycles. I also called **Lewie Kennett, '72**: it didn't surprise me at all that his accent had actually gotten thicker.

As the time got closer, the memories of AMA became more and more vivid. Again, my insecurities took me back to the fall of 1969, walking the line, keeping my chin tucked in. I vividly recalled **Sandy Henderson, '71**, getting my attention when (on my first day, no less) I told him if he wanted the stoop swept, he could do it himself. **WRONG ANSWER!**

Knots in my stomach

The day of the trip arrived. I must have packed and repacked my bike five times. That morning I was wide awake at 5:00 AM: I think I only slept about three hours. I called Bill at six and the trip was on and about seven hours later I was at the Holiday Inn in Staunton. The knots in my stomach started to unwind as I saw people I knew. **Jim Hash, '72**, walked in the room: it had been 32 years since we last talked. Damn, I thought, this weekend and bike trip were going to be great! We were coming back to our

youth, to the school that molded us into who we are today. AMA has a history of either making or breaking an individual, but for the most part, good men were made.

As more and more cadets arrived, my feelings of being a square peg in a round hole started to fade. I was home and seeing my brothers once more. Now it's true, not all brothers always get along, but we weren't just young boys trying to prove something anymore. We've grown up! I think **Sergeant Studer** summed it up best.



Mike Kidd, '72 Recall

I asked him how he felt, with all of us now being in our 50's now. His response: "Young!"

The reunion weekend was great! Some cadets I remembered, some I did not, but we were still all brothers. I was given the honor of shooting the cannon, and that was a lot of fun – even if the string did keep breaking. Sunday morning came and we met at the school. Pictures were taken and everyone was talking about the class of '84 finally getting their "diplomas". After all these years, they finally have closure.

A fabulous breakfast

Bruce Hemp, a Stuart Hall graduate, treated us to a great breakfast at her home. She is truly our sister, the sister of our youth. And she's a real Southern Belle (named Bruce??). God Bless you, Bruce. After that fabulous breakfast, we headed off. **Gordon Metz, '67**, rode point with **Tom DeValle, '73**, bringing up the rear. We were on our way: the miles rolled on and the roads were great. And it didn't matter who we were back at school or who we are today. We were just AMA cadets that loved the open road.

Lewie Kennett's friend, Jim, was a good sport, too. He tolerated all the teasing he got because he was riding a Japanese bike. When we stopped that night and unpacked the bikes, Tom Del Valle handed out some good cigars. Being the "new cadet" of the

group, I often surprised everyone by pulling whatever was needed out of my saddlebags. I guess 30 years of experience going on numerous rides came in handy.

I called home to check in and talked to a buddy of mine. I told him, "It can't get better than this!" But I was wrong: IT DID! There was only one day of rain and the miles just kept adding up. Once we got to Rider's Roost the laughs really rose to the next level. One of our group (who shall remain nameless) was advised to switch to Scotch instead of Bourbon – something to do with the things he saw. **Mark Femrite, '71**, was the fireman and cook that night. When the subject of **Doug Pennock, '72**, riding Garry Granger's bike in the rain came up, it brought lots of laughs. My hat's off to you, Doug, especially with that close call... I hope the stain comes out. And a special note to my roommate, Gordon Metz - Don't let your wife rag on you about snoring - you DON'T.

We're all that's left

Once everyone was down for the night, Mark and I started to talk. We talked about AMA and the closeness we all felt, about why we come back year after year. And Mark had a point. He explained that the reason was simple: we're all that's left. There is no more school. All that's left now are our memories. As Taps plays for the last cadet of AMA, our school, our home, our youth will also fade away.

I agree with Mark. So, I add this challenge to all AMA cadets. Join us at the next reunion and take the opportunity to relive and share your experiences. Good, Bad, or indifferent, AMA is a legacy we all share. No matter what, we are all brothers of Augusta Military Academy. Hold on to that legacy. Don't let it slip away from you because it will never be again.

One final note, I would like to thank my fellow Roller Riders: Bill Scarborough, Lewie Kennett, Gordon Metz, Tom DeValle, Gary Granger, Mark Femrite, **Rick Smail**, and Lewie's friend, Jim. It was a great ride and a fabulous trip. The freedom was great!

Being a new cadet was much less painful this time around!



Stuart Hall and Southern Sem

More John Morris: the dance sets

This is the fourth in a series by the late Dr. John Morris, '49, Professor of English Literature at Washington University in St. Louis. John's wife, Anne, has overseen the publication of John's memoir completed just before his death in 1997.

The senior chaperon at Stuart Hall took me for a gentleman, something perhaps not much expected in a boy from AMA. My answers to a coded question or two seemed to bear out her intuition. This quickened interest of hers I found inoffensive, even flattering; it was always merely part of her professional equipment as the duenna and I *liked* taking tea with an intelligent middle-aged lady; practicing this art acquired almost in my cradle reminded me of home. From her room off the school parlor she supervised her girls in their plaid skirts and angora sweaters, their circle pins and pearls, as they received their awkward guests.

I was here as emissary of our Cotillion Club. In this little room jammed with her own furniture, across the tea table she and I, plenipotentiaries, negotiated the social calendar, which could become complicated when conflicting requirements at Southern Seminary or SMA or Fishburne had to be taken into account. I contracted to supply so-and-so many partners for next month's tea dance or received with suitable seriousness murmured complaints of loutish behavior at the last German Club gala – horseplay among the stag line, evidence of smoking and poker games in the bathroom, hogging the punch, failures in dance-card discipline.

Names stricken from list

At her direction, certain names were stricken from the roster of eligible. In return I gained her promise to up the ration of blind dates for our Mid-Winter Formal. Both of us enjoyed these parleys. Our business done, we sat back full of satisfaction. Now she excused herself to make an invigilating swoop through the drawing rooms while I finished up the cucumber sandwiches.

That year my girl at Stuart Hall was Catherine V. As a sign of the chaperon's favor I was permitted to pay my court to her on an unsupervised veranda. Catherine I had judged to be more get-attable than most other attractive girls, an estimate impossible even on the veranda to put to the test. Girls from Mary Baldwin College we could at least take to the movies, but why they bothered with us schoolboys was a mystery. What was in it for them besides the matinee at the Dixie Theater and a milkshake afterward in the Arcadia?

Lotharios among us spoke of more exciting encounters,

but I doubted these tales. My MBC girl was Charlotte, known to all by her childhood nickname "Nookie." (One wonders a little about some parents' ways with names. I was later to meet a young woman who endured life as Fonda Cox; we agreed that her father, a Marine general, ought to have known better.)

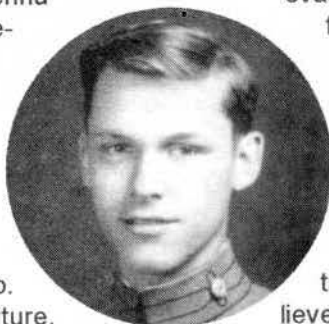
Nookie soon lost whatever interest she may have had in me. No matter. For a date at our dances one could make do with a schoolmate's sister. I remember fondly one amenable good scout of a girl, jouncy and pneumatic, doused in magnolia perfume; and another – agile, lanky, evasive – the all-state center on the Texas girls' football team, with just the least hint of a mustache. Anyway, I was always in theory in love at home, with Jean, or Deborah, or Barbara. Catherine and Nookie and the rest, then, were mere stopgaps, substitutes for one or another inaccessible dreamboat.

Tales of conquest

From vacations some returned with gaudy tales of conquest, narratives one wished to believe in as holding out hope. In the meantime our imaginations fed on images. In the pages of *Sunshine and Health*, overexposed girls played volleyball in black and white, their nakedness dishearteningly matter of fact. The Vargas and Petty girls in *Esquire* were more satisfactory. So too, more grossly, the little cartoon, the booklets, or "eight pages" in which familiar comic-strip characters like Tillie the Toiler and Blondie, post-modernists before their time, transgressed the conventions of their genre, their uncanonical antics enacting our fantasies of potency and compliance.

So it was for me anyhow, and I suppose for most of the rest of us. Just now and then what seemed reliable rumors of actual encounters reached us.

In a ditch behind the gymnasium the football backfield was said to entertain high school girls from Staunton after Sunday Parade, while the unventuresome rest of us up the Big Barracks listened to Jack Benny and wrote letters home. This seemed enviable in its way but also somehow unedifying. These passions our dances were, plainly enough, designed to sublimate, fancifying them, dressing them out as polite behavior. For a week or ten days beforehand the Cotillion Club's Decorating Committee labored half the night preparing the gymnasium, these licensed late hours, themselves carnival in spirit, part of the excitement. Up the walls of the basketball court steam radiators rose like ladders almost to the ceiling. My fearless friends had swarmed up them into the high rafters.



Top, Hal "Boots" Jester, '47, the Decorator. Bottom, John Morris, '49, the Author.

Thirty feet above the floor they moved about like high-steel Indians constructing the Empire State and from the beams and stringers hung out enormous banners – the flags of Chile and Italy and Alabama and a dozen other states and countries – chosen at random from the committee's dusty store. Now as a fluttering, tentlike canopy they deployed a mile or two of blue and white crepe paper, imagination revising the dull tremendous spaces of the room. As a last touch, they suspended from the center of the ceiling a revolving globe, its mirrored facets ready to reflect the colored spotlights. None of this seemed ordinary to us. "There," said **Boots Jester**, the Chairman of the Decorating Committee, and rested from his labors, scarcely caring what happened at the actual dance.

On the appointed night, we spent the abbreviated study hour titivating. Boys who had successfully avoided the barber for a week or two secured their pompadours in place with Vitalis or Wild Root Cream Oil and a last flick or tap of the comb; sleeked back their side locks to form the fashionable duck's ass.

Cadet officers corseted themselves in their crimson sashes. A few dandies were kitted out in white mess jackets, an optional item of uniform not all of us could afford. Other sharp dressers among us adjusted almost invisible details of uniform, their obsessive last touches individuating the general smartness of turnout.

Sharp at eight the taxis from MBC and the buses from Southern Sem and Stuart Hall unloaded in front of the gymnasium, where we jostled in the lobby, each struggling to preserve his girl's corsage from the crush. On the stage the orchestra struck up "House of Blue Lights" by way of cheerful welcome, and in clumps of couples, shy or chattering, we debauched into our ballroom under Jester's paper canopy.

Showboats cleared the floor

Soon now we were hard at it. Showboats among us almost cleared the floor in the fast numbers: artists of the Shag, agile as Cossacks at the Balalaika, giving us all a lead at the Conga and Rumba. Matching these energies one devastator from Southern Sem almost came out of her off-the-shoulders dress, and here and there some prim unconvertible from Stuart Hall unleashed herself.

This was not the kind of music that suited me. I never ventured beyond the box step, though now and then half releasing my partner to cut her own semi-independent caper. The stag line lounged against the wall, sardonic, ribald, satirical, feigning indifference, gathering the courage to cut in. Out of control thirteen-year-olds skylarked near the refreshment tables, engaged in shoving matches,



UNDER A CANOPY OF BLUE AND WHITE - The 1950 Final Ball, the year after John Morris had graduated. The "high-steel Indians" had done it again: turned the gymnasium into the extraordinary "with a mile or two of blue and white crepe paper." Colonel and Mrs. Roller and other chaperons are on the stage behind the saber arch.

punched each other on the arm in their excitement.

Now the evening drew on. In their folding chairs the chaperons had exhausted their store of conversation. Lights dimmed for the slow, last set, the closest dancers practically bedding down standing up. The globe revolved sprinkling its reflections across the darkening floor. "Dream" and "Deep Purple" and the obligatory "Good Night, Sweetheart" – under Jester's decorations we danced on, pavilioned in adolescent splendor and nudging our partners with our erections.

Not every such occasion went so well. To the girls descending from their buses on one memorable night, a row of sixty or seventy boys presented their posteriors as they vomited into the bushes. So swiftly had a suppertime food poisoning spread among us that no one had gathered his wits sufficiently to cancel the dance. In half the beds in barracks, boys lay retching into their wastebaskets. The sinks and toilets overflowed. The Officer of the Day, somehow unaffected, anxiously controlled the foul stoops and the spattered courtyard walkway. The infirmary was full, and on the grass outside other sufferers lay pale and sweating in their ballroom finery.

What to do? In the gymnasium the orchestra was tuning up. We seventy or eighty survivors decided the dance must go on. And so it did, in the spirit of manic hilarity. For once we boys were outnumbered. And for this one unconventional night I was a belle of the ball, the girls efficiently organizing a stag line, taking the lead, smartly cutting in: bright-eyed and predacious, ourselves in travesty. This was not at all what we had in mind, that lady at Stuart Hall and I, conferring over the tea table.

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Once again, commemorative paver bricks are being offered to the alumni and friends of **AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY**

*Bricks ordered NOW will be installed in front of the
AMA Alumni House/Museum before the 2005 annual reunion*

You can remember or honor a friend, a teacher, a fellow cadet, a parent, a child. Honor a living person who has been important in your life. Honor the memory of someone who has passed away. Tell your mate that you love her or him.

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New paver patios will permit many more engraved bricks at Alumni House/Museum

They pause to read the inscriptions on the engraved pavers which line the sidewalk in front of the AMA Alumni House/Museum and examine the pavers under the bulletin board. Tributes to classmates and faculty members. To family members and pets. To war heroes and to the myriad accomplishments of former AMA cadets.

Now, the Museum Committee has broadened the area where the pavers are installed so that a new batch of the engraved bricks can be put into place over the next months.

Duke Fancher, '58, says that so-called "paver patios" have been installed on both sides of the walkway leading to the House. "This provides space for an additional 180 8" X 8" bricks or 360 more 4" X 8" pavers,"

he says. The plan is to accommodate paver orders received over the next year or so without the necessity and expense of pouring a new concrete base each year.

Fancher says that a recent count shows that 646 pavers have been purchased and installed since the program was first offered in 1999. "When people come on the campus,

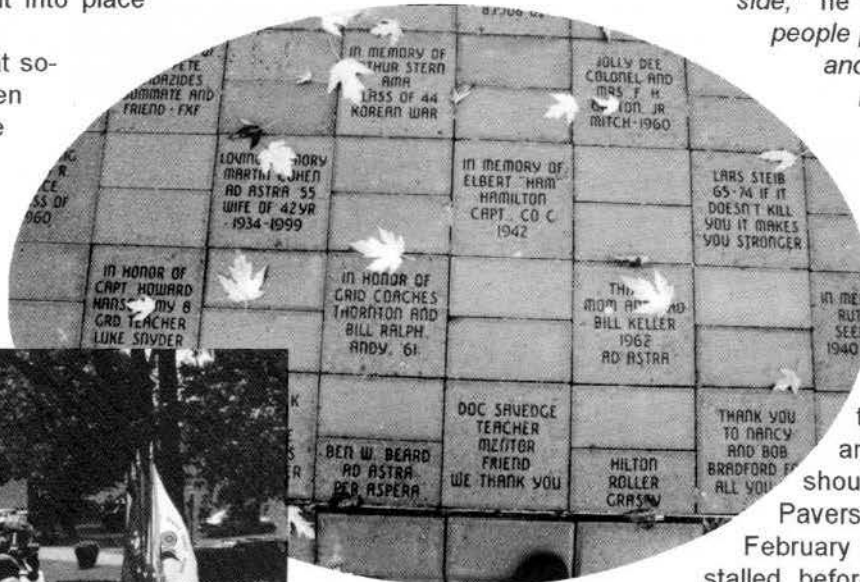
the first thing they usually do is to stroll up the walk and read the pavers on each side," he says. "You see

people pointing, laughing and sometimes wiping a tear away as they read the poignant messages cut into these bricks."

The order form on the opposite page enables anyone to order a paver and to specify what should be said on it.

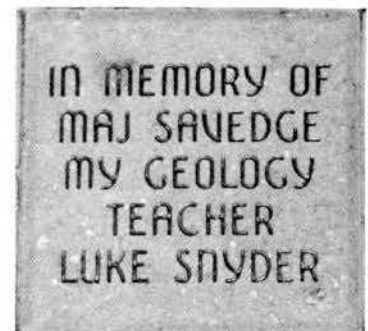
Pavers ordered before 4 February 2005 will be installed before Reunion 2005

(which will be during the last three days of April - 28, 29, and 30 April, 2005)



CHECKING THEM OUT - A not unusual sight at the AMA Alumni House/ Museum as visitors pause to read the inscriptions on the pavers which line the walkway leading to the House.

In the oval, above, falling leaves from the great trees in front of the alumni house punctuate a section of pavers installed beneath the bulletin board. Note the many blank spots waiting to be filled!



The seniors of 1975



Top to bottom,
LEON ARMENTROUT,
Harrisonburg, VA;
JOHN ELLIOTT ARTHUR,
Newport News, VA;
ANDRES AYAU,
Guatemala, GA;
WILLIAM J. BRUDER,
Baltimore, MD



TOP, LESTER LAWTER, Alexandria, VA; HUGO LEROY-BEAULIEU, Fort Lauderdale, FL;
MALCOLM LIVICK, JR., Fort Defiance, VA; CENTER, FELIX MONTES, Guatemala City, GA;
VERAPPAUL MUDAMARA, Bangkok, Thailand; LAWRENCE NICHOLSON, Washington, DC;
BOTTOM, MARTIN PARKER, Brighton, MI; MIGUEL PEREZ, Flushing, NY; and HUGO ROMAN,
Queens, NY.



TOP, CARL RUSTIN, Washington, DC; FERNANDO SALAZAR, Guatemala City, GA;
DONALD SCHWEBEL, Elkton, MD; BOTTOM, JOHN SMITH, Temple Hill, MD;
BARRY TABOL, Lakewood, OH; and BRETT THOMPSON, Arlington, VA.



LEFT, LUIS IGLESIAS, JR., Astoria, NY; RICKY
JOSEPH JONES, Washington, DC. RIGHT, R.
GLENN KELLER, Hollis, NY; ROBERT E. LACY,
Wilmington, OH.



TOP, HARRY CHEUNG, Kowloon, Hong Kong; JORGE
CORDON, Guatemala City, GA; CENTER, TONY PATRICK
EPPERSON, Amelia, VA; RODERICK GENE GILLIAM,
Front Royal, VA; BOTTOM, JOHN DANIEL HASH, Fort
Defiance, VA; and STEVEN WILLIAM HEMPHILL, Fairfax,
VA.



TOP, ROBERT WALKER, Falls Church, VA; BRUCE WALLING, Cleveland, OH;
CHARLES WATTS, Palmyra, VA; BOTTOM, JOBY WHITE, Newport News, VA; ANDY
WILKES, Newport News, VA; ARTHUR YUEN, Kennedy Town, Kowloon, Hong Kong.



The Class of 1975
and their
hometowns
when they
attended
Augusta

To the '75 Class from Bob Walker

Next year's reunion is important. I haven't been asked to spearhead any kind of drive to get you to come back and I'm not going to ask you for any money. I just want to see some of you ugly old men again!

Compared to when we walked across the stage to get our diplomas from **Doc, Big Mal and Dekle**, that's what we are rapidly becoming: old men.

Some of us can't come back. I would have liked to see **Lester Lawter** again: we were roommates his first year with **Shawn Ogimachi**. It would have been nice to have a beer with him, maybe even ride our Harley's up Route 11 a little too fast, but he's gone.



Bob Walker, 1975 Recall

Miguel Perez isn't coming back. I don't know the details of his passing; he was a good guy and I'd like to see him again, but I can't. **Rene Gilliam** is gone and so is one of his brothers.

What is this saying to you? "Man, I would sure like to see (insert name here) again. Whatever happened to him? Is he dead?"

Don Schwebel is our brother zombie. He was counted as gone for a long time, but he's back. Don, the insurance company called and they want their \$50,000 back!

I know some of you are not in the US, but if you want to send a greeting to the rest of your class, please send it to me at: walk9587@bellsouth.net

If you can't make it because of the expense, maybe we can find someone near you and you can ride to Fort Defiance together.

If there's a way, we'll try to make it happen.

Hope to see you in the Spring!

Bob Walker, '75

30 years have gone by

By Brett Thompson, '75

As I sit here and begin to write, I wonder what could be said to so many of you who have not been back to AMA for 30 years or who have seen *The Bayonet* so many times and have reminisced, remembering the many good and bad times we experienced together. Some of us have our year books out and go through them on occasion looking at all the faces we used to live with for nine months out of the year. Some of those faces were friends; some of those people we hoped to never see again.

Over the years, I have had the pleasure of returning to a place that I hated when I was dropped off in the fall of 1971 and which I grew to love by the time I threw my hat in the air, and vowed years past to never shed a tear as we parted ways for the last time. But I, as many others did, shed more than a tear as we hugged each other, clutching our diplomas as if they were the most precious things in our lives. Graduation, the whole process, is something that has been a pleasant memory with images forever burned into my mind for me to reflect upon for the past 30 years.

New and old friends

Coming back to AMA has been more than a homecoming. It has been a place to make new friends, to meet people I would have never known, people who understand what I have because they have it too. I have new friends from the old days of the **Big Boy** and the new beginnings when **Colonel Livick** took over. I have put aside my grudges and have found friendships with those who did things that I didn't like. At times, the reunions have been a healing process, but much more than that it is a place where stories can be shared and memories boosted, a place where people are really glad to see you because you were a part of their life for so many years.

It is several months before the next

reunion in April but never too early to make plans. Returning to see old friends who just might not be there tomorrow, friends who might want to see you! At present, three graduates of 1975 have died. **Lester Lawter** came to visit the AMA Museum, his photo was in *The Bayonet*, but before any of us could contact him his daughter advised the alumni association that he had died.

We can do better

Make plans now to come to our 30th reunion! Put everything aside and do as **Thom McCabe** did last year. Just show up to be

greeted with open arms. We had four members back for our 25th reunion. With 32 graduates left with whom we have contact, we should be able to do much better than that in 2005.

Scrapbooks, photo albums are good museum resources

A number of scrapbooks, photo albums and what were called "Fellowship books" have been contributed to the AMA Museum offering a window into different eras at AMA. In the early 1900's, cadets had fellowship books with many personal comments penned in them from the funny ("*Here's to the girls who got to know me and pity on those who didn't*") to the serious ("*Good luck to you in college*") to the syrupy ("*My friend forever here in my heart*"). Some of the books have a couple of generations contained in them.

"These are great resources for anyone who wants to know what AMA was like in a certain period," said **Sergeant Don Studer**. "People wrote differently in 1904 than they do in 2004, and some of the language is quite interesting."

The original owners of many of the scrapbooks and photo albums are not
(continued on page 71)



Brett Thompson, 1975 Recall

Sidney Anderson Taylor, '51

1933 - 2004

A memoir by Charles "Hap" Starr, '51

Sid Taylor of the AMA Class of 1951 died of cancer on Friday morning, July 23, 2004. His illness was blessedly brief and his passing at home was peaceful.

This memoir is not about the death of an old friend. It's about the life of a man whom I came to know and eventually love over 57 years beginning when all of us new cadets during our first day at AMA wandered through the Front Arch in 1947 having not the slightest idea what awaited us. To say that parts of Sid's four year stay at AMA were a little chequered might be a bit of an understatement. Aside from being easily the most intellectually gifted person I've ever know, his other particular talent was to manage to have been busted no fewer than three times while at AMA.

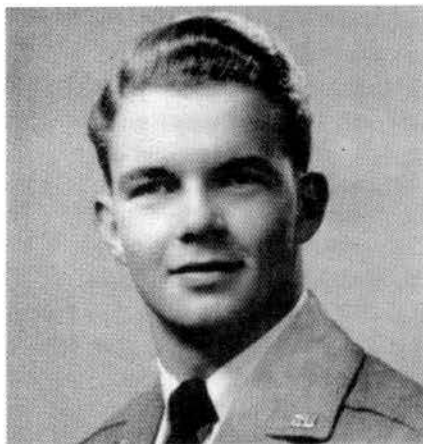
He returned as a senior to find his name listed as a squad leader but that didn't last long; something about sneaking off to Mary Baldwin or joy riding the school bus. Sid was rooming with our **First Captain Phil Pelland** in Room 5 in the Tower, the traditional digs of battalion commanders. No doubt, **Colonel Roller** felt that Phil might be a stabilizing influence on our Sidney, and he was... for a while. True to form, Sid screwed the pooch once again and the Colonel's punishment was imaginative to say the least. Aside from a number of tours and who knows how many hours shoveling coal, Colonel Roller decided to move **Phil** to another room and leave Sid without a roommate for the rest of the year. Maybe the Colonel thought that Sid might be embarrassed by his isolation and settle down. Who knows? It's arguable whether or not Phil suffered more by the change.

Colonel Roller saw something

Why would the old boy be so patient with Sid when during the previous two years he may have set some sort of dubious record for kids being tossed out of school? No doubt Colonel Roller saw something in Sid that allowed him to understand that he might honestly be destined for great-

ness and was worth the Colonel's patience. Once again, the old boy was right.

When Sid graduated he went briefly to the University of Virginia where he had won a small scholarship for biology. It could have been a continued reaction to academic as well as



Sid Taylor, 1951 Recall

military regimentation (two years of college ROTC were required in most state colleges then) that caused him to drop out. Again, who knows? Yet he did not wither on the vine of unemployment as many tended to do. You see, Sid always worked. He was a work boy at AMA and in the summers he worked at the gasoline station his late father had once owned in Washington, DC.

During his attempts to find a job, he went to Johns Hopkins Laboratories and was tested for entrance into their technicians training program which he aced with flying colors. Sid reveled in the scientific civilian life and was later delighted with the blindingly complicated research on which he worked and thrived. He spent more than 45 years at the Hopkins labs rising to a full blown senior engineer despite not having a college degree. After formal retirement, he consulted with Hopkins and for some of the contractors he had worked with. His specialties were, among others, solid fuel rocket

telemetry and just prior to his retirement, something even more arcane called box antennae. His successes including being responsible for what he referred to offhandedly as "several patents" held by Hopkins.

There are a couple of stories about Sid which still circulate. Sid was born naturally muscular. He was as tough and solid as an oak tree stump, yet never lifted a weight or otherwise worked out. He was a true genetic endomorph but he didn't care for sports. Again, it might have been the regimentation on demand. His only sport was when we played Tiger Football for **Paul Hoover**. Though a fine player, I think his reason for playing was because so many of us were his classmates and friends. Few of us will deny that it was a lot of fun being one of "Hoover's Gangsters."

Football with Hoover

Playing football for Hoover was hardly the most imaginative of scientific sports. Aside from a couple of patented pass plays and a terrific end around run, most of it was straight ahead rock 'em, sock 'em running plays and simple post pattern passes in the days when everyone played both offense and defense. With Sid as our hammering fullback, we rarely failed to gain good yardage but for a couple of us the physical toll was merciless until **John Core**, who played guard next to my tackle slot, took Sid aside.

You see, Sid was simply interested in tucking the football into his gut, putting his head down and running straight ahead, no matter what. We had one play where John and I opened up the so-called two-hole between guard and tackle for Sid to careen through except Sid didn't know what or where the two-hole was. So eventually he went between center and guard, the one-hole, and continually ran up John's back making his intended yardage at the cost of some discomfort to John. When John told Sid of his mistake, Sid simply said, "Oh, okay," and never made the mistake

again.

Sid's academic brilliance was unquestioned and continuous; he made the Honor Roll consistently nearly every month of the four years he was at AMA. But again the maverick in him only looked on his studies and his accomplishments perhaps as just another day at the office; simply the means to an end. If it had ever been routine that a photo would be taken of the honorees each month, Sid might not have shown up for the snap. It was no big deal to the extent that he would either forget or refuse to wear his Honor Roll armband. Only the Colonel was upset about it and often reminded Sid of his cardinal sin. Sidney continued to demur until Colonel Roller threatened to have the armband sewn onto his sweater. Sid again got the message.

Sid and Barbara

My more personal history with Sid began well after we left AMA. Like my fond yet erratic friendship with John Morris, it was in fits and starts. There often were years when we would be out of touch. It all began when I left college to join the Air Force. My first school was the Engineer School at Fort Belvoir near Washington. Over that three month period, I saw Sid a couple of times and met his Barbara who was to be his wife for 50 years before her untimely death three years ago.

I saw him again after I finally graduated from college and spent a week working in and around Washington being training as a senior salesman for the college textbook company that I had joined in the spring of 1959. In succeeding years, my work took Mary Ann and me to Ohio, California and then to New York where I became a rookie (and entirely unsuccessful) textbook editor. Later as a regional sales manager with Random House, I went to Washington a number of times for academic meetings and recruiting. During these years, even if it were only a phone call, we kept in touch.

In 1971, I left publishing entirely. Sixty per cent of my life away from home over a dozen years began to take its toll. During the early spring of 1972, my mother sent me a newsletter for the inaugural 1971 AMA alumni reunion. My time then was entirely my own and I wanted to go see what it was all about. Ironically enough, one of the people in a photo in the newsletter was John Morris.

I called Sid to ask him if he might be interested in going to AMA for the next meeting. He said he was and

of times over those trying months and all that I can say is that I was privileged to simply listen to him.

His reaction to Barbara's death was in stark contrast to his hearing of his impending end. The day he told me he had cancer and wouldn't have but a couple of months was a simple statement of fact. Of course I couldn't read his mind but he didn't seem frightened and never complained. He was ready for the fate that he had been handed and seemed to have prepared himself for it. Aside from an

entirely understandable lapse following his wife's death, another telling thing about Sid Taylor was that no matter what confronted him, including other family tragedies during his younger years and as he aged, he never seemed to feel sorry for himself.

A generous side

Never overly sentimental, Sid had a generous side which was told to me most often by someone else. His son Matt told me that in Barbara's memory he equipped a computer laboratory at a local high school and over the years

he donated a couple of his old cars to schools for their vocational programs.

In late June of this year, he gave a gift to Mary Ann and me which resulted in our fifth trip to England.

It's not important what the gift was except to say that his generosity made a world of difference in our overall comfort.

We returned after three splendid weeks spent in Scotland, Wales and England on July 20. I called Sid on July 22 to thank him again and to fill him in on the trip.

He died the next morning, July 23. He is survived by his sons Matt, John and Brad, his daughters Kim and Robin and their spouses, 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren... enough of a brood to keep a loving, doting grandpop on his toes.

Rest in peace, Sid.



IN 1987, friends together at an AMA reunion. L. to r., John Core, '51; Jim Starnes, '50; Sid Taylor, '51; and Charles "Hap" Starr, '51.

later picked me up at Washington National Airport for the drive to Harrisonburg where the reunion was headquartered. That was the beginning of nearly 30 years of contact every other year or so. In the meantime, we called each other often just to stay in touch. Nothing shattering: just a couple of aging guys who liked to chat about not much of anything.

Barbara's illness

All of that changed when Barbara became ill with an assortment of problems. When she died in 2001, Sid was shattered. I'm not being unfaithful to his memory by relating this vignette. The irony of this man whom I had known for so long being so distressed is telling about him. For a person who always seemed to me as never being overly emotional about much of anything and always in control it, it was heartbreaking for me for weeks more than he could take, yet he rebounded. We talked dozens



A look back at the 2005 Honor Class years

What was going on 50, 60 or 70 years ago? The cost of living, popular songs, and headlines of the day?

	1935	1945	1955	1965	1970	1975	1980
Headlines	Social Security law enacted + Will Rogers killed in plane crash	World War II ends + Atomic bombs destroy Japanese cities	Russia explodes H-Bomb + James Dean killed in car crash	190,000 GIs now in Vietnam + Medicare bill signed into law	US voting age lowered from 21 to 18 + Compact discs (CDs) invented	Soviet-US spacecraft link in space + Vietcong capture Saigon	Iraq and Iran go to war + Reagan elected President
Average income	\$1,632	\$2,390	\$4,137	\$6,469	\$9,357	\$14,816	\$19,173
AMA TUITION *	\$700	\$850	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$1,650	\$2,175	\$2,700
New car	\$625	\$1,025	\$1,910	\$2,614	\$3,979	\$4,225	\$7,201
New house	\$3,400	\$4,625	\$10,950	\$13,600	\$23,400	\$39,300	\$68,715
Loaf of bread	8¢	9¢	18¢	21¢	24¢	36¢	51¢
Gallon of gas	10¢	15¢	23¢	31¢	36¢	44¢	\$1.19
Gallon of milk	47¢	62¢	92¢	\$1.05	\$1.32	\$1.57	\$2.02
Top song of the year	Red Sails in the Sunset	You'll Never Walk Alone	Unchained Melody	King of the Road	Bridge Over Troubled Waters	Love Will Keep Us Together	Sailing
Academy Award	Mutiny on the Bounty	The Lost Weekend	Marty	The Sound of Music	Patton	One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest	Ordinary People

* Does not include books or uniforms. A new cadet uniform in 1935 cost \$180; in 1980, \$425. In 1935, books cost \$20 and in 1980, \$465. Today, the approximate tuition at both Fork Union and Randolph-Macon is \$22,500.

Class Agents for 2005 Honor Classes

1980 (25th)
Keith Traylor
(301-258-7380)

1975 (30th)
Brett Thompson
[bdt46@bellsouth.net]

1970 (35th)
Jorge Roviroso
[jorovilfarovi.com]

1965 (40th)
NONE

1955 (50th)
T. C. Lea
[tclea@ns.gemlink.com]

1945 (60th)
NONE

1935 (70th)
Julian Quarles
[JMQJR@aol.com]

Are you from either the Class of 1945 or 1965? Please volunteer to be the agent for your class! We will furnish you with all the known addresses for your classmates and can draft and prepare for mailing individual letters to them from you.

Please e-mail: AMABayonet@aol.com, or phone 925/855-7338 to volunteer!

REUNION 2005 HONOR CLASSES



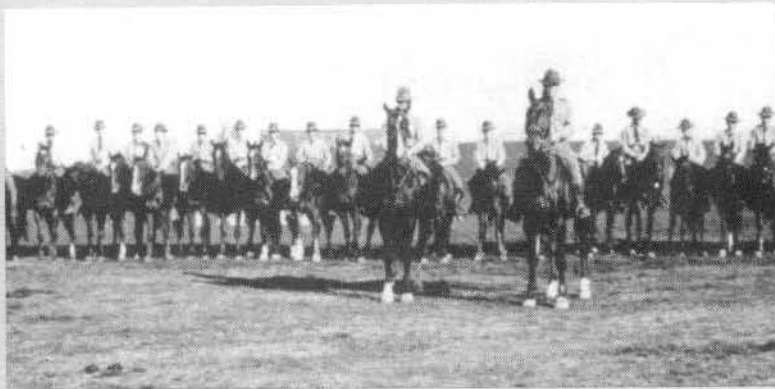
60 YEARS AGO IN 1945 - The *Bayonet* staff.



40 YEARS AGO IN 1965 - The AMA Rifle Team after winning the 2nd Army trophy.



25 YEARS AGO IN 1980 - Steve Reech (17) warms up Goalie Taylor Livick before a lacrosse match.



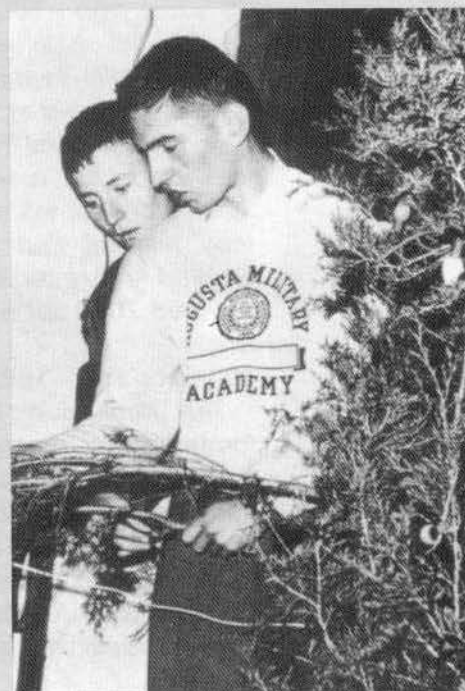
70 YEARS AGO IN 1935 - The Augusta Cavalry on review.



50 YEARS AGO IN 1955 - The Final Ball theme was A Salute to the Confederacy.



30 YEARS AGO IN 1975 - Ready to board the bus for a trip to Williamsburg.



35 YEARS AGO IN 1970 - Larry "Stride" Coleman and Rich Maschak decorate a Christmas tree on the third stoop.

Augusta memories...

Our memories come from old **Bayonets** from the classes which will be honored at Reunion 2005. See if you remember...

70 years ago - 1935

Augusta's swimming team had a good season with **George "Minnie" Adam**, who broke the school's backstroke record, doing well in every meet... When we swam against the Virginia frosh at the University pool, AMA came out on top 39 to 27 with Adam taking four first places... **Beeson, Adam, Weber, McClung, Robinson, Farnsworth, Higbee, Somerville, F., Byrd, N., and Cook** received Augusta monograms.

60 years ago - 1945

The honor of being Editor-in-Chief of this year's **Recall** fell to **Cadet Jimmy Pigg** who has really proven his worthiness for this honor. Chosen as Assistant Editor-in-Chief was **Paul Moerschell**... while **Bob Gorton** was selected as the Sports Editor and **William Jones** is the yearbook photographer.

50 years ago - 1955

With the high score of 1348, the Augusta Rifle Team won the Invitational Rifle Match held at VPI in Blacksburg... **F. E. Wirkus** and **Howard Harner** won individual high scores, each with 366. Just before the team left for Blacksburg, they learned that they had won the Second Army Interscholastic Match having fired 7048 out of a possible 8000.

40 years ago - 1965

The Thanksgiving Hootenanny opening formal was a big success... Girls came from Stuart Hall, Fairfax Hall and from back home. The Cotillion Club officers have long prepared for this dance: **Mike De Ayora, Rex Miller, Ben Beard, Frank Poplaski** and **Joe Inguagiato** and their success was attested to by the Cadet

Corps... The Villagers and the Chartbusters played for the dance. There was one of the biggest turnouts for an AMA dance ever.

35 years ago - 1970

AMA's Superintendent **Colonel M. H. Livick** announced to the Corps that **Jeff Wenzel** and **Billie d'Orsay** have been selected as Outstanding Teenagers of America for 1970... Billie and Jeff will now compete with other winners from Virginia for the Governor's Trophy... Jeff has been on the Honor Roll ever since he has been at Augusta... Billie is one of the top five cadets academically... Both cadets are involved with many extra curricular activities.

30 years ago - 1975

Although not well understood by the general public, fencing has remained a major sport (at AMA) through the perseverance of **Colonel Paul Hoover**... After preseason matches with the University of Virginia and Mary Baldwin, Colonel Hoover felt his team had the potential for a good season. His leading fencers are **Brett Thompson** (foil), **Bob Walker** (epee), and **Luis Iglesias** (saber).

25 years ago - 1980

At the end of Veteran's Day ceremonies, **Cadet Anthony Beneventi** and **Cadet Charles Moore** played taps and the flag was lowered to half mast. At 2:00, the **Charles S. Roller Rifles**, led by **Cadet Ty Miller**, had a ceremony in Harrisonburg at the Courthouse Square. By 4:00 PM, the entire AMA Corps of Cadets formed at Madison College to march through the downtown section of Harrisonburg.



President Granger names committees

AMA Alumni Association President **Garry Granger, '71**, has appointed a number of committees made up of members of the association board of directors. These committees met during the 18 September board meeting in Martinsville.

Committee chairs in ***bold italics***, committee members in **bold**.

2005 Reunion Committee: ***Frank Williamson, '60***; **Frank Spencer, '49**; **Dave Conrad, '60**; **Sergeant Don Studer**; **Tommy Simmons, '53**; **George Holt, '60**; **Jim Councill, '49**; **Gary Nicholson, '70**; and **Ben Zinkhan, '60**.

Fundraising Committee: ***Norvell West, '83***; **Bob Ash, '64**; **Lewie Kennett, '72**, and **Al Zayas, '75**.

Sign Committee: ***Steve Trent, '70***; **Norvell West, '83**, and **Gordon Metz, '68**.

Museum Committee: ***Sergeant Don Studer***; **Sergeant Joe Josephson**; **Luke Snyder, '60**; **Duke Fancher, '58**, and **Ben Zinkhan, '60**.

Scholarship Committee: ***Bruce Orenstein, '69***, and **Bob Bradford, '50**.

Financial Committee: ***Garry Granger, '71***; **John Hash, '70**; **Bob Harris, '54**; **Goodloe Saunders, '57**; and **Rod Willey, '51**.

World War II Committee: ***Mac McInnis, '67***; **Steve Matton, '67**, and **Tommy Mitchell, '52**.

Scrapbooks from page 65

known, but the collections of the following identified faculty members and cadets are at the museum for study and enjoyment by museum visitors: **J. E. Runnels, Jr., '20**; **Henry Webster, '23**; **W. C. Mayer, '26**; **Joe Alexander, '28**; **Carey Campbell, '28**; **Paul Lang, '35**; **Larry Kurtz, '38**; **Sam Wales, '38**; **Herb Jacob, '38**; **Richard Horwitz, '51**; **Goodloe Saunders, '57**; **Charlie Pascale, '69**; and AMA faculty member **Colonel Warren Robinson**.

REUNION 2005
28-29-30 APRIL

AMA men meet for meal in Miami



A group of AMA alumni gathered at a well known Little Havana restaurant in Dade County, Florida this past summer to welcome AMA Alumni Association President **Garry Granger, '71**, and his wife, Becky. Meeting at Casa Juancho, the alumni talked with Granger about plans to get AMA alumni together for a Florida Marlins baseball game and other alumni activities planned for Southern Florida.

Attending the dinner were **Lucretia and Manuel (Magui) Balbis, '53**, **Kike and Jorge Roviroso, '70**, **Dianne and Burt Glick, '71**, and **Sarita and Al Zayas, '72**. Magui accompanied by master accordionist Don Pepe Cojones serenaded Garry and Becky, and after dinner the group adjourned to the Balbis' residence for Cuban cigars, superb Spanish brandy, and the retelling of many AMA anecdotes and stories.

BIG SHAM BATTLE



AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY

FT. DEFIANCE, VA.

Monday, May 30, 1938

3:00 P. M.

ON JORDAN'S HILL . . . OPPOSITE BARRACKS

250 Cadets including infantry, cavalry and artillery will take part. Thousands of rounds of blank cartridges for rifles and machine guns will be used. Also a 3 inch cannon, 37 mm. guns, Trench mortars, flares and mines.

PUBLIC CORDIALLY INVITED

HURRY HONEY, WE'LL BE LATE FOR THE BATTLE! - That's what one might have said on Memorial Day in 1938. Above, a flyer advertising a sham battle on Jordan's Hill across Route 11 from the AMA campus.

Dr. Meb Turner from page 36

saw the goal to fruition. Middle States Accreditation came first in 1971. The Merrick School of Business and the School of Law then earned specialized accreditations by the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business, the American Bar Association and the American Association of Law Schools.

The new president soon embraced more pressing challenges. Higher education was becoming increasingly competitive; tuition income would not be enough to help UB thrive in this new arena. *"We secured our future by becoming a public institution,"* Dr. Turner says. *"Would we have survived otherwise? It's hard to tell. But at the time, we didn't feel like finding out."*

(Maryland State) Senate Bill 586, introduced in 1973 to bring UB into the system, had some fierce opponents. But Dr. Turner – prepared by fierce competition on the playing field – was ready to do battle. *"We had every right to survive,"* he recalls, his eyes flashing at the memory. *"There were lots of schools in the state system, and there were plenty of students. There was room for everyone."*

UB had a key edge: one of every six members of the Maryland Assembly was then a UB graduate. *"That's always been so important to us – we had helped so many people and they've been grateful and supportive. They have never forgotten us."*

On May 24, 1973, Governor Marvin Mandell signed into law the bill incorporating UB into the Maryland State College System, later the University of Maryland.

The key concession required of UB insured public support but changed the University. In 1975, UB became a transfer institution for undergraduates, with the authority to develop graduate and professional programs. With a new focus, the University concentrated on developing programs to enhance the career opportunities of the students in a changing society. Along the way, more properties were acquired, buildings erected, the University's endowment nurtured, and respect earned.

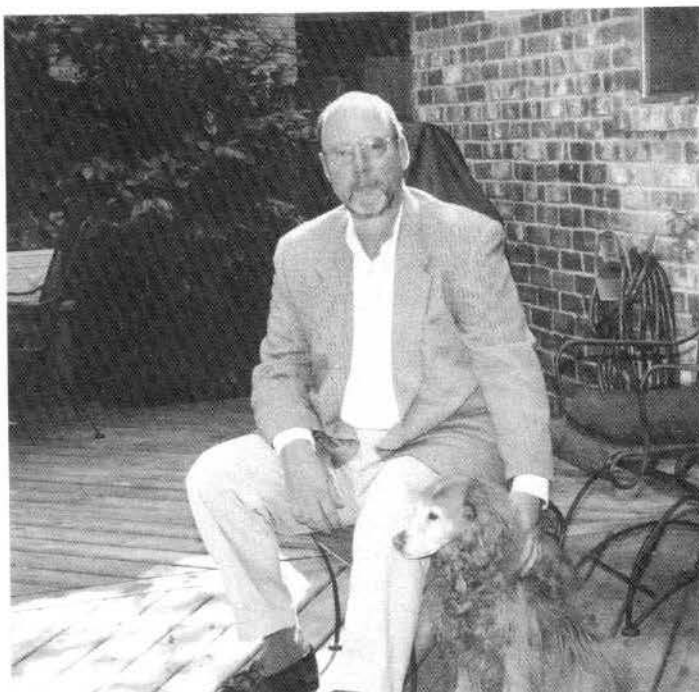
Not worried about being too big

"I am not worried about it's getting too big," says Meb. *"Getting good at what you do is what is important, and that's what UB is all about. We have developed some very selective programs within our mission. We have attracted the best students."*

Iva Turner offers some insight about why Dr. Turner has stayed at UB for 33 years and what the institution has meant to him. He always has relished what to some may have been insurmountable challenges. *"Although he did have chances to move on, he always felt dedicated to this university. It might have been easier taking on another presidency, but he felt he could really do some good here."*

Dr. Turner adds that his approach to almost every undertaking at UB has been built on two principles: *"You build on the strengths of what people have done before you, and you pay tribute to people along the way."*

In retirement, Dr. Turner will have more time to spend with his wife, a guidance counselor at Gilman School, and their 15-year-old son, Hal, a sophomore at Gilman. He'll have more time for Hal's wrestling matches, Iva notes,



"KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK" - That is the message which accompanied a most generous contribution from Steve Rhatigan, '68. Steve is shown above at his home in The Woodlands, Texas. Thanks, Steve!

expressing sympathy for the unsolicited advice her son's coach will receive. As someone who became a father late in life, Dr. Turner has given his son the same independence his father gave him, allowing Hal to make his own way, says Iva. *"It's been delightful watching him – he's really made an effort not to be too stodgy, keeping up with Britney Spears and MTV."*

Meb will put his feet up, read more biographies, replace on his shelves keepsakes Iva will try to store away, watch the sunset from the porch of his home in Ocean City. But he won't leave Baltimore. He'll stay involved in groups with which he has played a key role, such as the Lyric Foundation and the Rotary Club.

"I'll explain something about the bow ties, and that will tell you something about my nature," he confides, in the rich Virginia accent that has charmed so many. *"People tend to give you bow ties!"*



High praise for the AMA Museum

Jim Atchison, '73, writes to say the following: *I was fortunate enough to stop by our museum in September. What a great job! If anyone hasn't been there, they owe it to themselves and their families to swing by."*

Ross Coffey, '58, says: *"I had no idea that our museum was so professionally done. I have been in many museums all over the world and our museum for its size matches up with any I have ever seen. I don't know how you got this done with volunteers."*

Thanks, fellows! Yes, what you see today **was** done by the most dedicated group of volunteers you have ever seen!

Son of Paul Bratton, '48, earns second Bronze Star

First Sergeant Michael Bratton, the son of Ruby and **Paul Bratton, '48**, has earned his second Bronze Star for his efforts in Mosul, Iraq where he had the responsibility for training four military police platoons and directing the efforts of 150 American troops and 450 Iraqi police in that dangerous part of the world. Bratton earlier had received the Bronze Star for actions in Afghanistan.

Mike's unit was involved in the capture of both American Taliban John Walker and the shootout that ended the lives of Sadaam Hussein's two notorious sons. Nine purple hearts have been awarded in his platoon and Mike says proudly that each soldier later went back on duty. Sergeant Mike is now stationed at Fort Bragg, but two days before Christmas he will be going back to Iraq.

Bratton says he is most proud of the fact that the eight Iraqi police stations over which he had jurisdiction for ten months took no casualties despite being attacked ten times. He admires the character of the Afghan people and says that *"we need to stand behind them."* In Iraq, he sees a country which has great natural wealth as opposed to Afghanistan but had been *"ground down by Sadaam's brutal rule... Sadaam needed to go... The people there are relatively well educated and it is a rich country."*

Not one to be idle while he waits for his next assignment, Sergeant Bratton recently qualified as a Jump Master in the Airborne's 503rd Military Police Battalion. He has five more years to serve and says that leaving his family just before Christmas will be difficult as he feels his three children need him.

Congratulations to Paul and Ruby Bratton for having raised this brave man who puts his country above all else.

PARENTAL PRIDE

This new feature invites AMA alumni to tell us all about their children and grandchildren. Let us hear from you!



An AMA Scholarship winner has her wedding on a national TV show

Victoria Rovirosa, the daughter of **Jorge Rovirosa, '70**, twice has won an AMA Legacy Scholarship. This past May, AMA Alumni Association President **Garry Granger, '71**, wanted to have Vickie back at Reunion 2004 to tell how the scholarships had helped her. But she had a previous commitment: she was getting married.

Not only that, but the Learning Channel (TLC) was covering the wedding and the events leading up to it for their program called *The Wedding Story*.

Cameras poked into

every aspect of Brian Gauthier's whirlwind courtship of Vickie continuing to the altar as Victoria and Brian prepared for the big wedding in Miami which is Vickie's hometown.

But until 7 September, TLC had not decided when or even if the Rovirosa-Gauthier nuptials would make it to the home TV screen. On that day, Vickie and Brian were notified that their wedding story would air on the very next day – 8 September.

TiVos were fired up and the next day, there it was for a nationwide TV audience to enjoy. Brian, a rock band musician, had written a song for Vickie. Bridesmaids fidgeted while the father of the bride, our Jorge, kept telling Vickie, *"It's a piece of cake!"*



The father of the bride delivers his beautiful daughter to the altar.



The wedding party

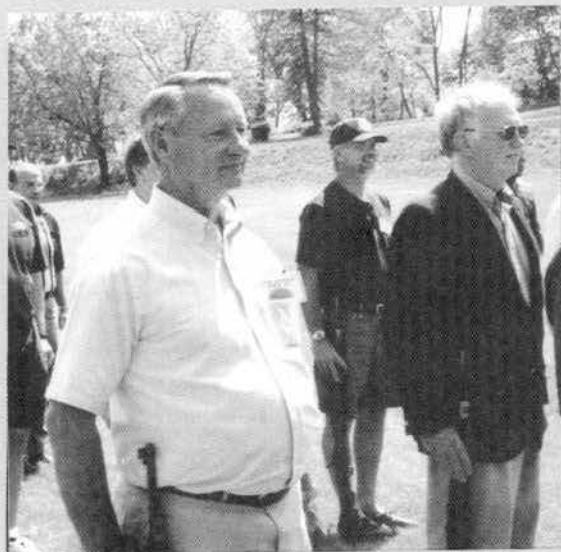




FROM FLORIDA TO TEXAS TO VIRGINIA - Mary Alice and Jim Councill, '49, came to the reunion from San Antonio where they recently moved from Florida.



TENT SHOW - At the reunion, l. to r., Sergio Fernandez, '56, of Bloomfield, NJ; Cade Holliday, '48, of Midlothian, VA; Bob Harris, '54, of Amherst; Tom Lassell, '54, of Chester, VA; Ed Dulin, '54, of Utica, MI; and Bob Bradford, '50, of Alamo, CA.



KNOCK OUT - Three of the Augusta men who competed against the Massanutten Drill Team. L. to r., Bob Harris, '54, Brett Thompson, '75, and Ken Hoke, '54. AMA won!



Fort Defiance's Stewart Middle School Teachers Linda Petzke and Debbie Hawkins led a group of their 7th graders on a tour of the AMA Museum during Reunion 2004. Marc Mehler had his World War II vehicles on display during the reunion which immediately attracted the attention of the students.



Ding, dong, dell, where the hell's the bell?



THE BELL from the 1968 Recall. Tim Hildebrand and Mike Bare think about ringing it!

So, where is the bell? The one that once hung in the center of the courtyard to summon cadets for announcements? The inscription on the bell indicated that it had once been the property of the Southern Railway. And it had a date on it: some think 1924. In any case, we would like to locate that historic bell. Several alumni think that it may have been purchased by an alumnus when AMA property was auctioned off 20 years ago in 1984.

The slightly tilted structure in the courtyard has been called many things over the years. It was a sentry box to cadets from earlier years and the bell tower in the last days of the school. Before there was a PA system, a horse-shoe shaped gong would be struck sharply and repeatedly with an iron pipe to summon cadets to the stoops for announcements.

At some point, the old gong was replaced by the bell. Cadets from the later years remember that it was rung at 9:55 each evening to indicate that cadets had just

five minutes to get in their rooms for the night. It also was used in case of a power failure which disabled the PA system.

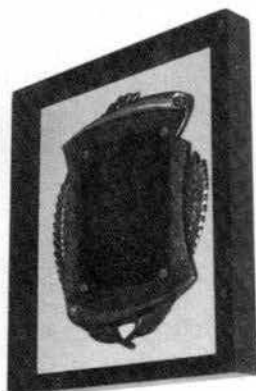
So, can you help us find the bell?

If you know anything about its whereabouts, please let us know at 540/248-3007, or e-mail: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com. If you want to remain anonymous, we'll respect that.



NO BELL PRIZE - The sentry box or bell tower, depending on when you were an AMA cadet, sits slightly off center, devoid of its bell in the center of the Big Barracks courtyard.

An effort is underway to locate the bell. Do you know where it might be?



MASTER SERGEANT JOE JOSEPHSON has his own corner in the museum honoring his service as a military man and AMA coach.



LOOKING OVER HIS SHOULDER - Doc Savedge looks down from the museum wall at Paul Bratton, '48, one of our best museum volunteers.

A mother's concern

Jack Manch's Mom wrote Hap Arnold

Never mind that **Jack Manch**, '38, had co-piloted a plane on the famous World War II Doolittle Raid on Tokyo. His mother wanted him back at home.

Jack was the son of **Major Martin Manch**, AMA's Band Director and German teacher, and his wife, Lucie. Jack was one of 80 officers and men who were selected to participate in the first American air raid on the Japanese capital, just four months after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The aviators flew 16 B-25's from the deck of the *USS Hornet* in April of 1942 planning to set down on friendly airfields in China. None did, but that's another story. In Jack's case, his plane ran out of gas and the crew parachuted. Four of the five man crew made it safely down, including Jack Manch.



General Arnold

Of course, the raid was big news in the US, the first time we had taken the offense in the war. The names of the flyers soon were made public and everyone, including Jack's Mom, knew that he had been on the raid. But in October, six months after the raid, Jack still had not come back to Fort Defiance.

That is when Lucie Manch wrote a letter to General Hap Arnold, CG of the Army Air Forces. "*Why*," she asked, "*are a handful of Tokyo raiders still kept on foreign soil? All of these men were promised that if they would undertake a dangerous 90 day volunteer assignment, they would be returned to this country for an extended furlough.*"

She wrote that she had "*brought a useful man into the world and consider it a privilege for him to have been with the outfit that upset Japan.*" She concluded her letter to General Arnold saying that she thought an injustice had been done to her son and asking for him to take action.

It was Jimmy Doolittle, newly promoted to brigadier general, who replied to Mrs. Manch. He said, in part, "*As you know, Jack recently completed a very hazardous, extremely important and most interesting flight: the air raid on Japan.*" Doolittle went on to praise Jack's heroism, but he made no promise about when he would get home.

In fact, Jack was flying over "The Hump" piloting cargo planes through perilous skies to deliver ammunition and supplies to Allied troops in Burma. He did get to come back home on leave in early 1943, and on his visit to AMA was hailed as the hero he was!

Jack remained on active duty after the war and died in 1958 as he steered his crippled jet trainer away from populated areas over Las Vegas, waiting too long to bail out.

☆ Thanks to **Steve Pearson**, '72, for uncovering Mrs. Manch's letter to General Arnold and General Doolittle's reply.

Dr. Erskine Sproul, '33

Lindbergh flew in to Augusta hunting camp

Six months after Charles Lindbergh became the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic, the heroic aviator dropped out of the clouds onto a field near Staunton to join Virginia Governor Harry Byrd and others in a hunt in the wilds of West Augusta County. The hunting lodge was called Sproul's Camp (Garden Ridge Camp) which was owned by the family of **Dr. Erskine Sproul**, '33, a man who would be directly involved years later with locating a commercial airport at Weyers Cave near Fort Defiance.

Although Lindbergh had been promised a quiet time for the hunt, some 300 people had gathered to see the famous man land his single engine Fairchild on the makeshift runway.

Lindbergh and his companions spent the night in a cabin at Sproul's, then hunted in the rain next day. One reporter said that "*all they got for their trouble was wet.*" Dr. Sproul was a flight surgeon in Italy during World War II and grew up near **Julian Quarles**, '35.



Charles Lindbergh

Story delayed The article in *Virginia Living* magazine about Virginia military prep schools has been delayed again and now is scheduled to appear in the November-December issue, according to the story's author.

HOW TO SAVE \$5.47 FOR AMA



That's what it costs AMA to mail a *Bayonet* to an incorrect address and have it returned by the Post Office!

Please keep us posted when you change your address. Every time a *Bayonet* can't be delivered, the Postal Service sends it back to us at a cost to us of \$5.47.

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FORT DEFIANCE, VA 24437-0101

Colonel Tom Roller at Army-Navy game in New York in 1927

Colonel and Mrs. Thomas J. Roller and their guests were at one of the last Army-Navy games to be played outside of Philadelphia. In 1927, the Rollers accepted an invitation from Colonel F. W. Coleman of the Finance Department, War Department (the predecessor cabinet level department of today's Defense Department) to sit on the 50-yard line in the Polo Grounds where Army won the game 14-9, very much to Colonel Roller's delight and the joy of his guests.



COLONEL TOM ROLLER
in front of Big Barracks.

The Rollers took along her sister and brother-in-law as their guests. Colonel Roller had written to Colonel Coleman before the game that he expected to have "a howling good time."

Colonel Coleman went on to be the Chief of Finance at the War Department at two star general rank. His son, Frederick, '28, entered West Point after he had graduated from AMA. He retired after World War II at the rank of Brigadier General, and passed away in 1981.

While at AMA, he was the First Line Sergeant in D Company, Chairman of the NCO Dance, and a member of the AMA tennis team.

Thanks to Ed Chauncey, '49, for uncovering these interesting tidbits from the mountain of old AMA files that volunteers are still working their way through all so slowly.

Need an extra Bayonet?

We are glad to furnish extra copies of *Bayonets* when we have an excess supply on hand.

If you would like to have a copy of a specific *Bayonet*, send an e-mail to: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com, or a letter to: AMA Alumni House, P.O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101. You may also phone 540/248-3007 to be sure the issue you want is available.

Copies of the *Bayonet* are \$5 each which includes mailing costs. Make check payable to: AMA Alumni Foundation. For orders of \$10 or more, you can charge it to VISA or MasterCard. Provide your credit card number, the expiration date, and sign the order.

The Third Infantry

Did you ever serve in the Army's Third Infantry?

If so, please contact Duke Fancher, '58, at: tdfan@aol.com, or you can phone him at 540/248-3007.

Augusta on video!

THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF AUGUSTA MILITARY ACADEMY!

High quality 8mm movies shot in the early 1960's and converted to VHS with the high quality protected. The great AMA Band... fall, winter and spring on the AMA campus... General Roller... Colonel Deane... Colonel McCue... Colonel Gardner... Colonel Livick... Colonel Lucas... Colonel Hoover... Colonel Savedge... Colonel Wales... Major Kivilighan... Major Koogler... Major Peduto... and other faculty members.

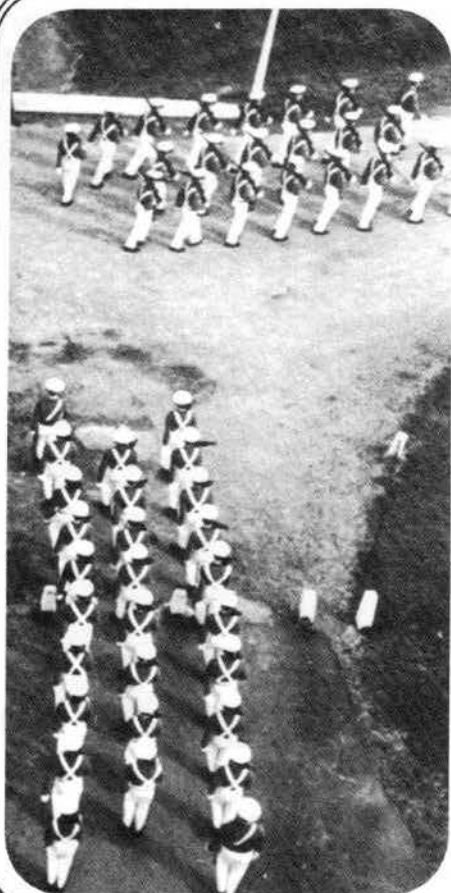
Tom Behrendt, '40, shot thousands of feet of film between 1962 and 1966, and has taken the best 75 minutes to create an exciting and memorable video, one every AMA cadet would love to own. The Roller Rifles... four Dress Parades... the Mother's Day Parade... scenes in the Big Room... and the Final Ball in the gymnasium with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra. Scenes of Finals in front of Big Barracks as relatives and friends help cadets move out at the end of a school year.

In the late 1980's, these videos sold for \$65 each. Now, Tom Behrendt is offering them to the friends and alumni of AMA for only

\$19⁹⁵ + \$4.00 shipping *

Or save the shipping by dropping by the AMA Alumni House/Museum and purchasing your copy from the AMA PX. Don't miss this chance to own this wonderful trip down AMA's memory lane while the limited supply lasts!

* In Virginia, add 4.5% for state sales tax



Iraq prison guard speaks at AMA Museum

Sergeant First Class Debra Mendez of Waynesboro told the Greater Augusta Regional Chamber of Commerce that her first days in Iraq *"were very scary."* Speaking at the AMA Museum, she said her first night in Iraq was spent sleeping on the ground while an American Humvee filled with other MPs was bombed nearby. She was assigned to the Abu Ghraib Prison which was the locale of the abuse of Iraqi prisoners.

A member of the Virginia National Guard's 229th Military Police Company, she helped to guard thousands of Iraqis. Sergeant Mendez said that the abuse took place about 100 yards from where she pulled twelve hour shifts. She said that when she heard about the maltreatment of prisoners, *"I cried... We are MPs. It was not our job to get military intelligence."*

Mendez said she gained an appreciation of the American mission to Iraq. *"I watched children starting their school year... and restoring normalcy to the kids' lives made the conflict crucial."* She has returned from Iraq to her job as manager of Waynesboro's Four Star Pizza Restaurant. She remains in the Guard and says, *"There are lots of heroes in Iraq. The infantry, the artillery, the Marines are dying for us. They are my heroes."*



Sergeant First Class Debra Mendez speaks at the AMA Museum.

AMA alumni asked to send letters to troops

Friends of Our Troops, a non-profit based in Fayetteville, NC, is asking the AMA Alumni Association for "morale building fan mail for our

troops overseas." The organization receives letters from all over the country and bundles them to go to specific military bases and hospitals around the world.

If you would like to organize a letter writing effort, get in touch with the AMA Alumni House and they will give you a sheet outlining the procedures that must be followed. FOT charges a small sum for

packaging and distributing the letters they gather from a high of 25¢ each for ten or fewer letters to 16¢ each for higher quantities.

FOT forwards by Priority Mail all the letters they receive to more than 1,000 bases, units, ships, hospitals and the like all around the world.

The deadline for Christmas greetings is 26 November, for Valentine letters 14 January 2005, and for next summer 3 June 2005. Members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard are included.

Get full details on the program at: www.troopfmail.org/album.htm

**Summer Hill
of Culpeper, VA**

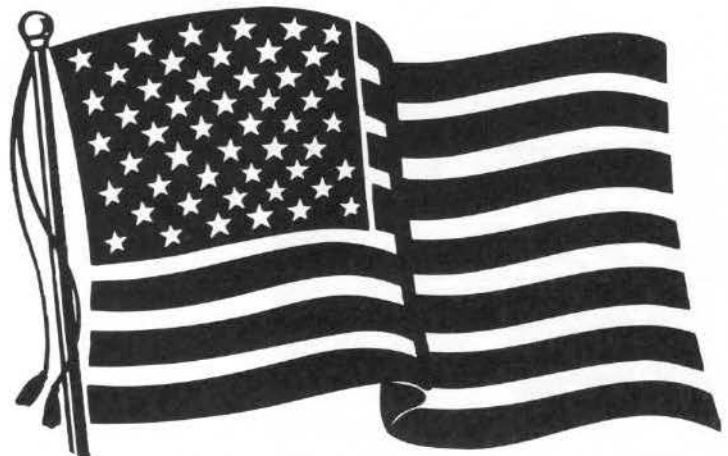
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Cadets used to arrive by train

For cadets from the later classes at Augusta, it may be hard to imagine that before and during World War II, most people arrived in Fort Defiance by train.

From the collection of **Henry Webster, '23**, is a train ticket to Fort Defiance issued in September of 1921. No matter where you came from, you had to change trains in Staunton. The Chesapeake and Western Railway operated trains between Staunton and Harrisonburg, and beyond. The C&W was known by many of its patrons as the Cuss and Wait.

In this era before interstate highways, air travel and widespread automobile ownership, the railroads were the principal means of transportation.

See story on the Fort Defiance train station on page 18.

More Class Notes...

Army Captain Robert Hanger, '71, sends greetings from Oklahoma where he recently transferred from Italy. E-mail him at: Robert.Hanger@dac.army.mil

Judson "Buzzy" Tillette, '66, signed in with a new e-mail address: jwtillette@yahoo.com

Frank Williamson, '60, says that Richmond received 12 inches of rain in four hours from Hurricane Gaston, proof that these storms still pack a punch long after they sweep across Florida. E-mail: Frankbev1@aol.com

Roger Messick, '52, and Jean were in Italy in the first few weeks of October. They celebrated selling their third spec house in their hometown, Prescott, Arizona. E-mail: TRMESSUP@aol.com

Garry Granger, '71, and **Lewie Kennett, '72**, are building homes on a 183 acre site with a seven acre lake in the Roanoke Valley. E-mail: GGranger@FreshExpress.com

A. L. Richtmyer, '34, just had his 91st birthday and says that he is staying close to home in Missouri where his sweet wife chauffeurs him from favorite spot to favorite spot. E-mail: arichtmy@coin.org

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Again in 2005, the annual Augusta Military Academy reunion will be held in April; this time, the last three days of the month – the 28th, 29th and 30th.

A drill team will march on our Parade Ground and we could see a reborn Roller Rifles (see page 24). The Assistant Dean and Head of the History Department at the Naval Academy will lead a group to Appomattox where AMA's founder was wounded and captured the day before the Civil War ended there.

'Til There Are Only Two is the theme of the 2005 reunion, a realistic recognition of that fact that we are not creating any new alumni and that none of us is getting any younger. This will replicate a 1997 program and will have the accompaniment of the Staunton Ovation, a bugler, a piper, and a soloist.

Time marches on!

Frank Williamson, 60, Chairman of Reunion 2005, says, "We are looking for a good turnout next year. We have an interesting program, but more than that we know that our alumni love to get back just to see each other, get caught up on what has been going on in each other's lives, and to retell the stories that only AMA alumni will fully understand and appreciate. The theme of Reunion 2005 emphasizes that the clock is ticking and if we plan to get back to a reunion 'one of these days,' we had best make a commitment to come back soon."

Reunion 2005 kicks off with an early bird reception at the Staunton Country Club on Thursday night 28 April. Friday features golf, tennis (if there is sufficient interest), the trip to Appomattox, and the Awards Banquet where AMA Legacy Scholarships and AMA Alumni Medals will be awarded.



**The last three
days of April 2005
28-29-30 APRIL**

Saturday begins with a continental breakfast where the Honor Classes (1935, 1945, 1955, 1965, 1970, 1975 and 1980) will have class photos taken. The 53 AMA men who were killed in World War II will be rendered honors in front of the AMA Alumni House/Museum and the 'Til There Are Only Two presentation will highlight the luncheon program in the AMA Gymnasium. After lunch, there will be the drill exhibition on the Parade Ground followed by Founder's Day ceremonies which begin in front of Big Barracks and conclude in the Old Stone Church Cemetery. The sporting clays shoot commences after Founder's Day ceremonies.

The highlight of Saturday night is the barbecue (can't you still taste that wonderful barbecue from the 2004 reunion?) and dance in the Hospitality Tent. The Silent Auction which opens Friday morning will close Saturday night with some wonderful bargains and the profit to the AMA Alumni Foundation. But as Chairman Williamson says: "It's getting back to see each other which is the primary reason for the reunion." Look for the Bayonet special just after the Holidays for more details and registration forms. See you there!



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